The Chronicle

Published for the employees of SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston

Excellence through teamwork...
around the clock; around the world!

(Read all about our award-winning teams and superior performers inside this issue.)

The Chronicle

Captain's Call

By Capt. Nancy L. Deitch, USN
Commanding Officer

Alignment: The CNO's fifth priority

When Rear Adm. Gauss made his first presentation to the senior leadership at SPAWAR headquarters over three years ago, he set a goal to "grow his relief from within." That goal came to fruition last month, when Rear Adm. Ken Slaght assumed command of SPAWAR. (Please take the time to read his "Rules of the Net" posted on the SSC Charleston Corpweb).

SSC Charleston has been working through its own alignment issues over the past four months. In my presentation to our senior management in February, I stated that one of my goals for 2001 is to implement the organization that will put us in a better position to serve our customer. It has been a major command focus. Here's where we stand and what's ahead in the near future.

1. We have completed an extensive VSIP/VERA [Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay] at our sites in Washington, D.C.; Pensacola and Jacksonville, Fla.; and Norfolk, Va. In total, 90 employees accepted our offer to transition off the roles.

2. As of June 11, our National Capital Region (NCR) office ended two existing tasks providing NMCI transition services to EDS [Electronic Data Systems]. Additionally, the "First Hire" list for the NCR was provided to EDS. This list tells EDS those employees who will be impacted by NMCI, and forms the basis by which EDS tenders offers of future employment in accordance with the terms of the NMCI contract. This has resulted in some additional employees moving off the roles.

3. Throughout the rest of the summer, we will be working within the technical codes to realign our sites within a single technical code. Washington will move under code 70, Norfolk under code 60, Pensacola under code 50 and Jacksonville under code 30. The plan is to commence this realignment immediately, with a completion date of October 1.

As we close out fiscal year 2001, our leaner, streamlined organization will help us cope with our transitioning business base and the challenges that lay ahead of us for fiscal year 2002.

On a personal note, I want to extend my congratulations to Ms. Susan Butler in code 71 on her selection for recognition by the Women of Color in Government and Defense Technology, and to Lt. Todd Jack on his recent promotion.

Slaght is SPAWAR's new commander

Rear Adm. Kenneth D. Slaght relieved Rear Adm. John A. Gauss at a change of command and retirement ceremony in San Diego, Calif., on May 25. Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, Paul A. Schneider, was the ceremony's principal speaker.

Rear Adm. Gauss assumed command of SPAWAR March 20, 1998; and is retiring to the Washington, D.C., area after 32 years of commissioned service.

Rear Adm. Slaght became SPAWAR's Vice Commander Sept. 14, 2000. In December 1997, Rear Adm. Slaght assumed the duties as chief engineer for the SPAWAR command, and as chief installer in June 1999. Born in Chicago, Illinois, he received his commission in 1970 upon graduation from the United States Naval Academy. Rear Adm. Slaght also attended the Defense Systems Management College, and the Naval Post Graduate School, where he received a masters degree in computer systems management, and the Naval Destroyer School.

Before coming to SPAWAR, Rear Adm. Slaght served as the program manager for the Joint Maritime Communications System program office where he directed the development, acquisition, and life cycle management of communications systems for the Navy. At sea, Rear Adm. Slaght commanded the ammunition ship *USS Flint*. Other sea duty included tours as executive officer aboard the guided missile cruiser *USS Gridley*, engineering officer aboard the amphibious ship *USS Tulare*, operations officer aboard the frigate *USS Edward McDonnell*, and combat information center officer aboard the frigate *USS Garcia*.

Rear Adm. Slaght is authorized to wear the following medals and awards: Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, Navy Commendation Medal with gold star, Meritorious Unit Com- mendation, Battle Efficiency "E" Ribbon with three "Es", National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with two bronze stars.

Senate confirms Gordon England as new Navy secretary

The Senate on May 22 confirmed former General Dynamics executive Gordon England as the new Navy secretary. He will replace acting Navy Secretary Robert Pirie.

Mr. England was nominated on April 24, 2001, by President George W. Bush to serve as 72nd Secretary of Navy, and was sworn in on May 24, 2001.

Mr. England previously served as executive vice president of General Dynamics Corporation from 1997 until 2001 and was responsible for two major sectors of the corporation: Information Systems and International. He has also served as executive vice president of the Combat Systems Group, president of General Dynamics Fort Worth aircraft company, and as president of General Dynamics Land Systems company producing land combat vehicles.

The Honorable Gordon R. England's complete bio is posted on the Navy's official web site, www.navy.mil. Select the *What's New* link on the welcome page for the link to the secretary's page.

Team **wins** Gary Thurston
Product Integration Award

Seated (l-r), Paula Somers (J1117PS), Lisa Rosenbaum (J1117), and Donna Murphy (J1113); (standing l-r) LaVerne Brown (J11B-LB), Jackie Luna (J1113JL); Rear Adm. Jenkins (deputy for acquisition and business management, and Capt. Deitch.

The *Gary Thurston Product Integration Award* is given to a Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, or other government employee with an established association to the standard procurement system (SPS) community who has worked to integrate SPS with their local business pro-cesses. The award recipient must also have worked to integrate SPS throughout the entire acquisition process, with the focus being to achieve full operational capability (FOC) at their site.

During the annual Navy SPS Users' Conference, held in Jacksonville, Fla., in February, SSC Charleston was announced as the winners of the Gary Thurston Product Integration Award. However, due to scheduling conflicts, no one on the SSC Charleston Procurement Desktop Defense (PD²) Super Users team was there to accept the award. In fiscal year 2000, SSC Charleston granted over 1,700 awards valued at over $200 million utilizing PD². The PD² super users' team — **Donna Murphy**, **Lisa Rosenbaum**, **Kathy Breitkreutz**, **Jackie Luna**, **Laverne Brown**, **Paula Somers**, and **Nina Burgsteiner** — was the driving force behind our success of PD².

SSC Charleston achieved initial operational capability in August 1998, transitioned to SPS for all production work, retired RFP 2001, and completed the upgrade to 4.1b. As a result of the super users' system expertise and organizational skills, the shift to SPS production was made while maintaining vital contracting support to all customers. Although many of their day-to-day administration tasks and data migration efforts were invisible to systems users, they were vital to our business operations.

The Super Users resolutely faced the issues, solved the problems and supported production every single day.

Jennifer Watson – newest DP-IV senior manager

Jennifer C. Watson is the new head of the Computer Services Division (J64) in Norfolk, Va. J64 provides worldwide services to agencies within the military service departments and many non-DoD agencies. These services span the entire spectrum of information technology support services including design, development, procurement, integration, installation, and program management, planning, and training.

Jennifer's civil service career began in 1981 with the U.S. Postal Service in Columbia, S.C. In 1986, she graduated from the University of South Carolina with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. Jennifer earned her master's degree from The Citadel in 1992. She joined the SPAWAR team in 1998 as part of the Multimedia Systems Engineering Branch (J732) where she worked with collaborative engineering technologies and applications.

Always continuing her education, Jennifer is currently working toward her doctorate degree at the University of Alabama at Huntsville in industrial and systems engineering.

DoN opens Virtual Office

On June 1, the Department of Navy (DoN) stood up the Virtual Office in 4A686 (former CHINFO office space) in the Pentagon. The Virtual Office is a phrase used to describe a remote work site that capitalizes on the use of technology by employees to perform a variety of work related functions. This pilot project will run four months and offer office space to military (including reservists), government civilians and contract personnel who need temporary office space while assigned to or visiting a DoN activity which resides in the Pentagon. Using approximately 2000 sq.ft. of space, this large office comprises private conference/meeting rooms, 21 work stations with telephone, fax machines, a printer, medium volume copier, laptop hookups and desktop computers with unclas DNHN and internet access.

Goals of the Virtual Office

1. To accommodate a portion of the significant number of transient personnel who visit, or are temporarily assigned to, the Pentagon; and

2. To reduce the future need for larger office space requirements for Navy activities inside the NCR if the Virtual Office concept is institutionalized.

Advantages of the Virtual Office:

1. Accommodates transient personnel when limited office space is not available;

2. Offers full range of telecommunication services and internet connectivity;

3. Provides conferencing space for private meetings or special projects;

4. Provides temporary workspace to individuals for tasks requiring high levels of concentration;

5. Provides informal meeting place for employees/contractors to generate spontaneous or creative problem solving; and

6. Success of this project will encourage other creative ways that that DoN employees can leverage technology to perform their jobs at remote work sites.

What you should do with this opportunity:

1. Think about how you can take full advantage of this temporary office space offer;

2. Get the word out to activities you conduct business with and to people you anticipate hosting in the next few months; and

3. Give us feedback on how we can make this idea work better.

Reservations for use of Virtual Office workspaces began May 21. Space can be reserved by the day, week or month on a first come, first served basis; however, priority will be given to military and civilian employees. Other personnel must be actively under contract to a DoN activity. Please call Ms. Naomi Dean at 703-695-2526 to reserve workspaces. Hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Exceptions to normal operating hours can be accommodated. This office will operate until Sept. 15, 2001, and then be fully evaluated for possible adoption in future Pentagon office design. Point of contact for this project is Cmdr. Steve Muck who can be reached at 703-697-6905/0047.

New design budget approach — a cost-avoidance tool

By Dr. Carol F. Smith
SCN C4ISR Logistics Manager, Integrated Systems Branch (J333)

■ The CVN 76 Ronald Reagan design budget program

Less than ten years ago, specific communication equipment had to be identified one year *prior* to the shipbuilding contract being awarded — and then it took six to nine years to build the ship. Despite the then relatively slow advance of communications technology, this *"baseline freeze"* often resulted in brand new ships with communications suites that were *obsolete* as soon as the bottle of champagne broke across the bow. Fast-forward to the modern communications revolution: Moore's Law states that the speed of computers doubles every 18 months and modern U.S. Navy communications are now predominantly computer-based. Coupled with the reality of ever-shrinking budgets and the rapid development of modern technology, an innovative solution was required. Enter the concept of the CVN 76 Radio Communications System (RCS) *"Design Budget"* process.

A major trend in the acquisition of electronic systems over the past decade has focused on the exploitation of commercial technology advancements through the use of commercial and non-development items (CaNDI). This rapid infusion of technology — when coupled with the traditional methods of shipbuilding — has required Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) to manage a complicated and expensive engineering change proposal (ECP) process in order to modernize the C4ISR baseline of each hull during the Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy (SCN) envelope. While this ECP process may achieve the modernization goal — the scope of each ECP has a large impact on the shipbuilder — and thus an increased cost to the government.

To avoid these costly changes, SSC Charleston's Systems Integration Branch (J333) employed a *"design budget"* approach to provide the Navy with significant design flexibility for installing *"state-of-the-market"* C4ISR systems for SCN programs. Through the design budget approach design "envelopes" are specified that define the

"If we have learned anything these last eight years, it's that peace through strength works."
—*Ronald Reagan*

The Birth of a Mighty Warship

Ronald Reagan served as the 40th president of the United States for two terms from 1980-1988. During the eight years of his administration, Reagan was a great advocate of naval power calling for an effort to rebuild U.S. military capability to a 15-carrier, 600-ship Navy. He demonstrated his strategic understanding of the aircraft carrier's importance as both a war-fighting and peace-keeping asset by initiating five *Nimitz*-class carriers on his watch.

Reagan's presidency is remembered for many accomplishments, including his restoration of the American military and his establishment of unquestioned maritime superiority. By the time he left office, he had indeed achieved a 15-carrier Navy of 594 ships deployed around the world.

space, weight, power, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning requirements projected for the integration of the RCS. Detail design responsibility for integration of the systems and equipment within these envelopes was transferred from the shipbuilder to SPAWAR. The shipbuilder's contract was modified to reflect the deferral of government furnished information (GFI) and government furnished equipment (GFE) delivery dates to the shipbuilder at a much later point in time than previously required. This enabled the shipbuilder to continue the construction of the ship while SPAWAR finalized the design, incorporating the most modern equipment available. The shipbuilder is then responsible for providing the necessary space, power, and shipboard services based on the established allocations.

This enabled the government to *"fence off"* the communication suite and assume full responsibility for its design, procurement, land-based systems integration and testing — and in some cases, shipboard installation and testing. Accordingly, design budget allows SSC Charleston to deliver GFI and equipment *"just in time"* to support detailed design, installation, and testing of the RCS on board ship. Design budget goals are highly successful at providing the fleet — at ship delivery — the most technologically advanced radio communications and secure communication equipment that is currently available without incurring a significant increase in shipbuilding costs due to design changes.

The design budget approach minimizes post-delivery work and upgrades while ensuring new ships are delivered to the fleet — substantially closer to being ready for deployment and fully capable to perform their mission. While not a cost savings tool in the ship's design and construction cycle, it is a cost avoidance tool used to implement "black box" changes that do not impact the overall ship's production schedule and delivery dates. This approach provides the means for integrating evolutionary changes into the communications suite, while preserving affordability and ensuring successful cradle-to-grave life cycle support for both Navy and non-Navy systems.

The CVN 76 RCS incorporates the latest in design technology for the transmission and reception of RF energy, its

processing and control, monitoring, management, and transfer of associated tactical and administrative information. New programs and systems such as the Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM)-based Automated Digital Networking System, Digital Modular Radio, Advanced Tactical Data Links System, EHF Follow-on Terminal, Tactical Variant Switches (Red and Black), and Navy Modular Automated Communications System II PC Variant (NAVMACS II PC), are but a few of the systems incorporated into the design of the CVN 76 RCS. Standard fleet legacy systems such as HF, VHF, EHF, SHF communications, fleet satellite communications, demand assigned multiple access, and fleet broadcast circuits have all been redesigned and implemented into the RCS as well.

Upon completion of the land-based integration and test phase, the RCS equipment will be prepared for delivery to Newport News Shipbuilding. Efforts will include finalizing delivery plans with the shipbuilder, finalizing the configuration baseline, and packaging and shipping the complete integrated system.

Following delivery to the shipbuilder, J333 will provide post delivery installation, testing, and material support until ship's delivery to the Fleet. During this same timeframe the RCS systems configuration logistics baseline will be used to validate that each configuration item has a complete supportability package. Additionally, J333 is developing a comprehensive multimedia computer-based crew familiarization training course, with an embedded system level operator's technical manual, to be provided to the crew prior to ship sail-away. It will comprise those systems, subsystems, and components that have been reconfigured, updated, or replaced and are not covered by standard fleet schools or by pre-commissioning unit training. This familiarization will be accomplished as initial training, follow-on training, and used as a tool for refresher training onboard the ship.

The design budget process is proving to be highly successful at providing the Navy the most technologically advanced RCS equipment available, without incurring a significant increase in shipbuilding costs associated with design changes. To be effective, the design budget approach requires close collaboration between SPAWAR, NAVSEA and industry. This approach ensures that the Navy's newest ships are ready to deploy with a fully interoperable fleet asset. It is apparent that the successful fielding of rapidly changing C4ISR technology in the 21st century poses unique management challenges. J333 has *"laid the keel"* for successfully meeting these challenges through the use of design budget and will continue to employ and leverage this approach on the LPD 17 *San Antonio* class, CVN Refueling Complex Overhaul, LHD 8, and T-AKE *Lewis & Clark* class.

Are you postured for the future?

A lways wanting to stay on the cutting edge of technology, SSC Charleston looks for ways to bring together new talent and fresh ideas. One way we do that is through creative hiring programs for high school and college students, or external announcements for college graduates within one year of graduation.

Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) — formerly stay-in-school

As its name implies, the Student Temporary Employment Program offers high school or college students temporary employment. This employment can range from summer jobs to positions that can last for as long as they are students, and does not necessarily have to be related to their academic field of study.

Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) — formerly known as Co-Op

The Student Career Employment Program (SCEP) offers college students valuable work experience directly related to their academic field of study. SCEP requires a commitment by the student, their school, and the employing federal agency. The student **may be eligible** for permanent employment under this component after successfully completing their education and meeting work requirements.

Navy Acquisition Intern Program (AIP)

AIP is a three-year program for SSC Charleston designed as an additional recruiting opportunity offered to provide an intensive and structured three-year career development program for college graduates to become acquisition professionals. Opportunities are available in the electrical engineer, computer engineer, and computer science fields. The AIP may be applied for after graduation by a student who has a cumulative 2.95 grade point average, or greater.

External Announcement — Open until filled.

External announcements are posted for the electrical engineer, computer engineer, and computer science career series.

This announcement is another hiring option available for graduating students. These positions will be filled at the entrance level beginning at the DP-1 (GS-5/8 equivalent) level, with potential for a career ladder to the DP-3 (GS-12/13 equivalent) level. Students may apply through the recruitment coordinator at recruit@spawar.navy.mil demonstrating interest, and the Human Resources Service Center (HRSC)-Southeast region to be certified for job consideration and selection by the departments.

Ron Alley, the recruitment coordinator in the Strategic Planning Office (J0D), is responsible for the command's recruiting efforts. He coordinates and collects resumes for distribution to all departments. If you know someone who might be interested in one of these programs, or you have questions about any of these programs, send an email to recruit@spawar.navy.mil.

Behind the Scenes of the Technology Training Center

By Janet Carter
Technical Services Branch (J6412JC)

Welcome to the Technology Training Center in Norfolk, Va. In case you don't know about our services, let me take this opportunity to describe who we are and what we do.

Our mission is to provide fee-based, instructor-led training services to fleet and ashore customers featuring the latest information technology topics. Our specialties include Windows 2000/NT, Exchange Server, Microsoft Office, Microsoft FrontPage, A+, Network+, i-Net+ and Unix. Our goal is to be the information technology training provider of choice. We strive for customer service excellence. We want to exceed our customers' expectations.

We are located in the downtown area of Norfolk, Va., in the First Virginia Tower building. Our facility has four state-of-the-art classrooms, a student break area and instructor office space. We are convenient to all military bases in Hampton Roads, a definite benefit to our customers. Not only do we deliver training in Norfolk, we'll take our classes on the road to a customer location.

A large portion of our business is to support the training requirements of the U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) in Germany and surrounding countries. We deliver training to more than 11 sites and have been the USAREUR training provider of choice for over 10 years. We love to tackle large training projects to manage quota control, courseware development and distribution, and project support. We were able to deliver end-user training for the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Standard Workstation III migration effort to USCG organizations in Virginia, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Ohio, and Alaska. We developed a custom training plan and rolled it out to USCG personnel over a two-year period.

We have a diverse staff of leaders, instructors and administrative support. We successfully deliver exceptional training services based on our individual strengths, talents and technical skills. To many, teaching may appear to be easy. It really isn't. When you're standing in front of a classroom of students, you better know your stuff. It can be very exhausting to ensure each student receives the individual instruction needed to make the course a successful learning experience but we love our job and thrive on the student/instructor exchange. Our instructors are here, because they love technology, and they love to teach. It's a great combination. As one of our instructors tells his students, "They pay me to play with computers all day. What more can you ask for?"

The *Who's Who* of the Norfolk Training Center

Donna Baker — Donna recently took over the helm in our training center. Donna has been in code 64 since 1982 following a career at the Naval Supply Center. She joined the training center in May of this year to fill the leadership position vacated by Marie Edmonds, our former section head who retired from government service, May 3. Donna is charged with managing our training business. One of her many strengths is in the accounting area, which comes in handy for handling all the funding documents we receive for our European training programs. Donna was previously the section head for the Network Services Support Section in code 64 where she was responsible for the command LAN team and several service offerings which included Internet Service Provider solutions, network planning and network installations. Welcome to training, Donna.

Dale Davis — If we had an award for *Best Instructor*, Dale would win the prize. He is, by far, our best instructor. His classroom presentation is flawless, and he continually perfects his materials. Dale is also our resident Unix expert. Outside the classroom, he handles scheduling, on-site training requests and other operational responsibilities as team leader. Dale is also our "train-the-trainer" instructor locally and for the staff of our European training project. Ask him any question about traveling in Germany, and he'll definitely know the answer. Dale also serves as the master of ceremonies at the Connecting Technology conferences. He had the opportunity to introduce Michael Dell, chairman of the board and chief executive officer, Dell Computer Corporation, at Connecting Technology Spring 2001. Dale would also make a great game-show host. Look out, Regis.

Janet Carter — That's me. I have been fortunate to work as a member of the training team since 1994 and as a member of code 64 for over 14 years. Training is definitely my favorite place to be. The business is incredibly dynamic. I really enjoy being able to share my experiences with my students to help them learn to apply technology in their everyday lives. When I'm in the classroom, I teach FrontPage 2000. When I'm not in the classroom, I wear several hats as team leader including marketing manager, Web designer, graphics designer and most recently as the project leader for our European training program. My most important goal here is to make sure our customers are happy. If we don't take care of them, someone else will.

Instructor Staff

Frank Harris — Frank is our resident computer expert. He holds a master's degree in computer science, is a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE) and is also known as our resident computer geek, a title he wears proudly. Around technology, Frank is a big kid in the candy store. He is truly passionate about his work and it shows. Frank is currently assigned to COMSECONDFLT as a network engineer and on-site trainer. Additionally, he serves as a commander in the Naval Reserves. He is assigned to the Joint Task Force HQ Unit 100 to coordinate IT for four CINCLANTFLT JTF reserve units. Frank is right at home.

Glenn Krell — Glenn is also in the computer geek category. He is an MCSE and is responsible for keeping all of our network connectivity up and running in our center. In the classroom, Glenn is our hardware and operating sys-

The Norfolk Training Center is conveniently located at the First Virginia Tower in the downtown area of Norfolk, Va., near bases, beaches and shopping.

Classrooms at the SSC Charleston Technology Training Center Norfolk feature state-of-the-art systems with individual student workstations.

Full registration services are provided to all attendees by our excellent customer service team. Soya Rowland (left) and Denise Shambley provide assistance to a new student.

Instructor Alice Butler assists code 6411 employee, Helen Edoff, during a hands-on training session.

The Norfolk Training Center features full student services including access to a refrigerator and microwave in a comfortable break area.

tems expert. He is not only an MCSE, but is also a Certified Professional for A+, Network+ and i-Net+. Glenn's former Navy experience is also a plus in the classroom. Most of the students who attend Glenn's A+ class are fleet IT personnel. He knows all the bits and bytes of information technology. Glenn can attest that his twin sons, both out on their own, probably know more about technology than he does. Computer geeks must run in the family.

Dawn Adams — Dawn is also an MCSE. She is actively involved in a variety of areas including Windows 2000, Windows NT and Microsoft Office. Dawn is incredibly dependable and reliable. She will teach anything, anywhere, anytime. We know that if we need her to jump in and teach a special class or provide training services to a customer at the last minute, she'll do it without any hesitation. Dawn is currently working on certification objectives for Network+.

Alice Butler — Alice is our resident database expert. Her forte is anything and everything to do with Access and database technology. She has also served as project leader and lead instructor for SPECSINTACT, a software application developed and distributed by the Naval Facilities and Engineering Command. Alice has tremendous patience and is always willing to help out where needed. She recently developed a custom reservations system to track student attendance and registration information in Access, of course. Alice was a guest speaker at Connecting Technology Spring 2001. She has also conducted a training class for hearing-impaired students with the aid of an interpreter.

Tom Donnelly — Tom is one of our MCSEs and specializes in our advanced technology series for Windows

2000, Windows NT, Exchange Server, TCP/IP and Microsoft Office. Previously, Tom was involved in the human resources arena prior to becoming a technology trainer. Tom is one of our seasoned travelers and is getting ready to deliver training in Iceland. His former Navy experience is definitely a "plus" in the classroom working with our military customers.

Donald Luckey — Donald is our newest MCSE. In addition to teaching Windows NT classes, Donald specializes in Microsoft Project and other Microsoft Office applications. Donald is retired from the U.S. Navy and has a private pilot's license. On any given clear weekend day, you'll find Donald soaring high in the sky over Hampton Roads.

Angela Byrum — Angela is our information security guru. She is currently assigned to COMSECONDFLT, along with Frank, as an information security specialist. Angela previously worked in the information security field at Naval Station Northwest. Prior to her position at Northwest, Angela served as project leader for the PC-LAN acquisition with NCTAMS LANT. If you have any questions about IT security, just ask Angela.

Training Support Team

Julie Dizon, Denise Shambley and Soya Rowland are part of our support team. They are the backbone of our operation. We rely on their skills for resource management, courseware, registration, funds processing and customer service.

Julie Dizon — Julie is our resource manager and is in charge of keeping us supplied with courseware just in time for scheduled classes and last minute requests. She coordinates and manages our courseware locally and for all the various sites in support of our European training project. She maintains contact with the staff in Europe on a daily basis to ensure they have the right materials at the right time at the right place. She is incredibly organized and works very hard to make sure our instructors have all the materials they need when they need them. She has also added the title of instructor to her credentials. Julie teaches Windows 95/98/NT/2000 functional end-user classes for several of our local customers at their on-site location.

Denise Shambley — Denise has been a member of the staff for many years and is the first person you will meet when you enter our front door at the Norfolk center. She is responsible for getting our students organized when they arrive for classes. She also does an incredible job keeping the instructors supplied with rosters, attendance information and certificates. Denise also collects funding from our customers and delivers quality customer service. Her greatest qualities are her memory (she never forgets a face), her reliability and her organization skills.

Soya Rowland — Soya is also a vital part of our front office. Soya shares the responsibility with Denise of greeting our customers, assisting them on the telephone and distributing schedules to our customer contacts. She also posts the list of courses for each week on our welcome sign inside the front door of our center. Soya is very reliable for our marketing support when it's time for e-mail and snail-mail distribution of our marketing materials.

Now that you know all about us, we hope to see you in class! Our course schedule is posted on our Website: www.training.norfolk.navy.mil. Please let us know how we can be of service to you!

Creative travel generates substantial savings

By: J. Kelly Decker
C4I Systems Division (J61KD)

When the budget is cut, get creative! That's what the Patuxent River Aircraft Interface Branch (J611), led by **Bobby Balta**, did when they needed to attend a conference in Charleston.

Strapped for travel funds and faced with transporting employees from Pax River to Charleston for the Integrated Logistics Management Team's (ILSMT) week-long conference, Bobby leased a large commercial bus. Twenty workers rode the bus to Charleston; an additional two people made the return trip.

Riders amused themselves on the nine-hour trip from Pax River to Charleston by watching movies on laptops, and listening to their CDs, while some read, some knitted, and all enjoyed plenty of food and camaraderie. Perhaps the most memorable picture in the riders' minds is the zoo animals painted on the outside of the bus, and the excitement fostered as the bus maneuvered through Charleston's narrow streets .

The $1,911.25 bus fee included the gas, oil, and three alternating drivers. Individual airline tickets from Pax River, Md., to Charleston are approximately $310. Five rental cars each cost approximately $50 per day. Let's see, based on the government rate, that's $6,200 airfare for 20 people and approximately $1,500.00 in rental car fees. Savings to the government was at least $5,788, not including the cost of some workers driving private vehicles. Because the bus was available to and from the conference, and for evening meal excursions, taxi fares were also saved.

The conference, held Feb. 26 through March 2 at SSC Charleston's conference center in building 3112, featured not only the ILSMT, but also the Subsystem Configuration Control Board and the Operational Advisory Group meetings. Fleet representatives from all TSC sites, Force coordinators, resource sponsors, and ISEAs discussed issues with current operational functionality, demonstrated newly developed or enhanced software for release to the fleet, and future requirements. It is important for the requirements generators, engineers, analysts, developers, integrators, and installers to meet to discuss where we are and where we are headed. Because of funding cuts, this group now meets annually, vice semi-annually. Conference attendees hailed from Charleston, S.C.; Patuxent River, Md.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Norfolk and Virginia. Beach, Va.; Brunswick, Ga.; Maine, San Diego, Calif.; Misawa and Kadena, Japan; Norway; Canada; and Keflavik, Iceland.

The Executive Committee presented the top eleven requirements from the conference: (1) MMA aircraft and Sensor Upgrade Support, (2) Next Generation Post Flight Acoustic Analysis System, (3) Communication Systems Improvements, (4) TSC/MOCC Training, (5) FCTCLANT TSCOMM Lab, (6) Intelligence Support Upgrade, (7) Long Range Communications Capability, (8) MOCC Support Equipment, (9) TSC Power Protection System, (10) SIPERNT/NIPRNET Access, and (11) Non-Acoustic Analysis Capability.

Navy tests NGI compatibility

By Dan Carney, Federal Computer Week, 04/23/2001

The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Center in Charleston, S.C., is testing Next Generation Internet (NGI) technologies so that the rest of the federal government can enjoy the benefits sooner.

"We are trying to evaluate IPv6 and its related technologies to see its impact and benefit to the military," said **Michael Brig**, NGI program manager. Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6), a 128-bit protocol, will replace the current 32-bit IPv4.

"We have a wide-area network pilot, and we're testing commercial applications as they are ported to IPv6," he said.

Some of the popular applications the Charleston center has tested include name services and e-mail programs, but Brig also noted that Quake, a popular PC game, has been converted to IPv6. Because the Marine Corps used a modified version of Doom, another shooting game, to provide

training, Quake could have similar applications, Brig said.

The testing has provided valuable insights into the behavior of the ported applications.

"We are finding certain behaviors of some applications that are not as we had assumed," Brig said. Microsoft Corp.'s Internet Explorer Web browser, for example, doesn't look for an IPv4 software "stack" on servers that have dual IPv6 and IPv4 stacks. If Internet Explorer has a problem reading a page on the IPv6 stack, it doesn't automatically check for an IPv4 stack to see if it can read the Web page on that stack, Brig said.

The problem isn't serious, and there is plenty of time to fine-tune applications before the NGI is used by many federal agencies. But such problems are the types of issues that must be addressed before NGI technology can be used with confidence across the federal spectrum.

Free handbooks available

FederalHandbooks.com has announced the release of its latest six FREE handbooks for federal employees. These handbooks were written specifically for federal employees — like you! To get your own copies of these handbooks, simply go to this website: http://www.federalhandbooks. com. It's that easy!

1. 2002 Federal Benefits Handbook

This unique handbook, written for active federal employees, covers just about everything you need to know about your federal career, including: Pay, Incentives, Leave, Relocation, Subsidies, Travel Allowances, Postal Service, Taxes, Furloughs, Employment Policies, Disability, Appraisals, Buyouts, TSP, Appeals Procedures, Social Security, Medicare, Life Insurance, Medical Insurance, Health Insurance, Veterans Benefits, RIFs, Retirement, and much, much more! (over 120 pages)

2. 2002 Federal Retirement Handbook

Planning for your retirement is getting harder than ever. That's why we've put together this highly detailed handbook. This report will give you all the ins-and-outs of your federal retirement — whether you're already retired or just now starting to think about it. Inside you'll find: all the latest federal changes, COLAs, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Liability Insurance, Survivor Benefits, Social Security, Medicare, TSP, FERS and CSRS information, Retirement Resources and much, much more! (over 120 pages)

3. 2002 CSRS Retirement Handbook

Designed specifically for federal employees under the CSRS retirement system, this handbook gives you: your retirement options spelled out, life and health insurance coverage, survivor benefits, retirement transition information, cost and benefits analysis, Social Security options (if qualified), timetables and much, much more! (over 80 pages)

4. 2002 FERS Retirement Handbook

Designed specifically for federal employees under the FERS retirement system, this handbook gives you: your retirement options spelled out, life and health insurance coverage, survivor benefits, retirement transition information, cost and benefits analysis, Social Security, timetables and much, much more! (over 80 pages)

5. 2002 Long-term Care Planning Handbook

Inside this truly unique Long-Term Care (LTC) handbook, you'll find everything you've ever wanted to know about LTC coverage, including: an explanation of how LTC insurance really works, costs and payment options, benefits, tax issues, options other than LTC coverage, things you should consider before choosing a policy, and much, much more! (over 100 pages)

6. 2002 Medicare Benefits Handbook

This is not an easy program to understand. How it works with your federal benefits can be very confusing. That's why we've published this fantastic handbook. It explains, in great detail, everything you MUST know about your Medicare benefits, including: Medicare and FEHB, Medicare Part A and Part B, Medigap Policies, HMOs (Managed Care), the available "Private Fee for Service Plans," and details your rights as well as protections, and much, much more! (over 100 pages)

Editor's Note: FederalHandbooks is a small company owned and operated by former federal employees and veterans. Their offices are located in Arlington, Va. Please feel free to pass along this information to all federal employees and retirees you believe would be interested in getting their own FREE copies of these new handbooks.

Travel bulletin

Kay Miller, in our travel office, said some employees are reporting mandatory safe fees that various hotels are charging.

Previously, government travelers were only reimbursed a "safe" fee if they were carrying government equipment and a safe was required. But now that hotels are charging this fee, and we have no control over it, the Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) will reimburse the safe fee if the hotel refuses to credit the bill. The fee MUST be listed on the Travel Voucher Form 1351-2 separately as a reimbursable expense (mandatory safe fee).

If you have any questions call Kay at 843-218-5190.
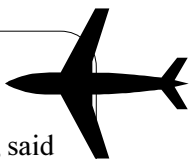
Washington Memorial Honors Veterans

Washington, D.C., May 15, 2001 — Did you serve? The United States Navy Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C., has established the *Navy Log* in an effort to honor all naval veterans that have served our country. The *Navy Log* includes Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Mariners. The *Navy Log* has thus far collected the names, service information and photographs of over a quarter of a million service personnel. All enrollments form a part of America's enduring naval heritage, a permanent and publicly accessible video register available for reviewing at the Naval Heritage Center next to the Navy Memorial on Pennsylvania Avenue, midway between the White House and the Capitol, or on the Memorial's Internet web site, www.lonesailor.org.

Write, U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, Attn: Navy Log, 701 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 123, Washington, DC 20004-2608, or call 1-800-821-8892 ext 730. Media Contact: David J. Michael, NCCM, USN (Ret.), Director, Navy Log

CT-Spring 2001 — a 'smashing' success

By Sharon Anderson
CHIPS Editor
Technical Services Branch (J6411SA)

Connecting Technology (CT) Spring 2001, sponsored by the DON CIO and the DON-IT Umbrella Program was once again a smashing success due to the CT team's superb coordination, outstanding speakers, and most importantly our fantastic guests!

The semiannual symposium was held at the Virginia Beach Pavilion Convention Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia. This year we were honored to have as speakers, the DoN CIO, Dan Porter, as well as each of the deputy CIOs, which included: Ms. Alex Bennet, deputy CIO for enterprise integration; Mr. Ron Turner, deputy CIO for infrastructure, systems and technology; and Mr. Dave Wennergren, deputy CIO for E-business and security. One of the program highlights was a first-hand executive update of the Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) by Mr. Joseph Cipriano, program executive officer for information technology (PEO-IT).

The EDS booth at CT-Spring 2001

The DoN Chief Information Officer, Dan Porter, and Jennifer Watson, head of the Computer Services Division (J64) in Norfolk.

In addition to leading naval and government speakers, CT also featured leading industry partner speakers as well, including Michael Dell, chairman of the board and chief executive officer, Dell Computer Corporation; Stephen Squires, PhD, vice-president, Hewlett-Packard Company; Rick Jones, business development manager, Intel Corporation and Darryl Schaffer, principal technology specialist, Microsoft Federal District. *CHIPS* magazine was able to get an exclusive interview with Mr. Dell at CT — look for it in the summer issue.

Attendees commented that the vendor exhibits were especially good — with representatives from DoN CIO Smart Card Project, EDS, Lockheed Martin, NAVSEA CIO, Novell, SAIC, SPAWAR and many more. The networking, brainstorming, IT updates and new ideas generated in this forum are just a few of the reasons why CT is so successful and attendees keep coming back.

Code 64 folks were especially proud that our new division head, **Jennifer Watson**, was able to attend CT and lend a hand in the *CHIPS* booth! We also tracked her down talking with Dan Porter, attending the speaker sessions, and checking out the vendor displays! Jennifer really made the most of her CT visit and so should you! Please join us for CT Fall 2001 at the Town & Country Resort, San Diego, California, October 30 through November 1, 2001. Meet the Navy IT experts and industry partners shaping Navy IT strategy. Keep checking the CT Website at www.it-umbrella.navy.mil/ct for further information and to register online.

Message center now protects personal information

By Bob Jett
Administrative Services Office (J0A4BJ)

The world of messaging is evolving, even as you read this article. You may have heard about the new Defense Messaging System (DMS) — the next generation communications system which, when implemented sometime this year, will give a slightly new look at the way we process and handle the command's organizational messages.

The unclassified messages are handled much as a regular email, most of which are transmitted by Non-secure Internet Protocol Router Networks (NIPRNET). This convenient use of the email system is sometimes offset by its ability to rapidly and widely disseminate information to unintended audiences. You must remember that: Email is **not** private and can easily be forwarded and modified beyond the control of any individual. NIPRNET email is official communication and subject to monitoring, long term storage, and potential release under the Freedom of Information Act.

As we prepare for the new system — which is geared strongly in the use of the internet and email systems to deliver messages — it has become apparent that some changes in the way we handle certain messages must be implemented while we are still using the current Automated Digital Network (AUTODIN) System.

Specifically, messages that contain an extensive amount of personal information (i.e., name, Social Security Number, date/place of birth), and individual security level information, must receive a narrower field of dissemination to preclude the potential release to unintended recipients. At SSC Charleston, many messages of this type fall under the category of visit requests, country clearances, and/or theater clearances. To better protect the privacy of personal information, the message center has implemented a very restricted distribution policy. Messages containing personal information no longer receive in-house general distribution from the message center. Only the originating code will provide additional copies on an individually requested basis. Likewise, incoming messages containing personal information no longer receive general distribution. They are manually reviewed and passed only to the code that has a need-to-know. If the code is not readily identifiable, the message is passed to the security department for further review and dissemination.

In order to provide the most rapid and direct delivery of these messages, it is imperative that you advise your customers of your individual code. Remember, there is a clear connection between NIPRNET Email/messages and Personal Information Protection (PIP).

More information from the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington, D.C., about potential pitfalls and vulnerabilities of indiscriminate email usage can be found at http://cnon6.hq.navy.mil/n6k/email.htm. Click on Record Message Traffic, then Email Common Sense.

Justify your 'legacy applications'

By Joe Weed
Head, IT Operations, J433

Legacy applications are a major concern to SSC Charleston, and the Navy in general, regarding the NMCI transition process. NMCI defines a legacy application as any application not resident on the NMCI Gold Disk. The Gold Disk is the name given to the suite of applications that NMCI will provide with each seat order service. The Gold Disk is a short list, which leaves an extremely large number of legacy applications in use by our command.

Each application deemed necessary to perform both our DoD/DoN mandated and customer support functions must be certified by the Information Strike Force (ISF) to operate in the NMCI environment. The ISF has setup a lab in San Diego, Calif., for the purpose of certifying legacy applications. The certification process is currently free. Loading the legacy applications is also free provided the application is reported in advance of the ISF desktop setup arrival date, the application is certified by the ISF, and the holder of the application has a valid license and media. Applications not reported in advance will incur fee for certification and a monthly charge to have the applications reside on the workstation. Customers will not receive any support for the applications. Our tasking is to prioritize, rationalize, and reduce the legacy applications currently in use by our command.

> "For clarification, NMCI is supposed to provide internet/email access from all Navy/Marine Corp sites. The portable seat will be necessary to reach email (via modem dial-up) when not at a Navy/Marine Corp site. This, of course, will not be at full capability until NMCI implementation is complete. Navy is currently trying to negotiate webmail access."
>
> — *Joe Weed*

(**Editor's Note:** Visit the *CHIPS* magazine's web site for an in depth look at NMCI in the Special NMCI Spring 2001 issue (http://www.chips.navy.mil). the entire NMCI contract can be found on http://www.contracts.hq.navsea.navy.mil. You can also get complete up-to-date information on http://www.peo-it.navy.mil/nmci.html. SSC Charleston employees should check for regular updates on the SPAWAR Knowledge Center (http://skc.spawar.navy.mil).

Gallagher and Silverman recognized for 'meritorious' service

Our congratulations to **Edmund F. Gallagher**, a technical specialist in the Special Programs Branch (J743), and **Gail H. Silverman**, head of the Legal Counsel (J0C). Ed and Gail recently received the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award and Medal during a SPAWAR command-wide video teleconference.

As a project manager within the Force and Infrastructure Protection engineering Division (J74), Ed has been responsible for managing and executing some of the most important and sensitive security projects undertaken by the SPAWAR command. He completed a number of highly successful security and crisis management systems installations for the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and the White House on behalf of the U.S. Secret Service.

A recent example of Ed's extraordinary leadership ability was on the White House Access Control System upgrade project. He accepted full responsibility for this on-going project despite its broad visibility, high level scrutiny, and significant schedule and budget problems as a result of a previous attempt by a major DoD contractor. The project involved a complete replacement of an existing access control system, modifications to the existing White House Appointment and Visitor System, data communications and sharing between the two systems, and custom user interfaces at the officer posts. This project required extraordinary collaboration and coordination with many elements of the U.S. Secret Service, multiple developmental contractors, and the integration contractor.

Ed successfully moved the project forward despite the many distractions of an election year and a change in administration. As a result of his innovative leadership and ability to leverage state-of-the art technology, the Navy is delivering a solution developed on schedule and under budget. This is but one example out of a career

Don Bailey, executive director, pins the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Medal on Ed Gallagher.

of similar achievements that has earned Ed a well deserved reputation for excellence with the Navy and broader security community.

Gail's exceptional performance, characterized by her innovative leadership, proactive management and tenacious legal analysis, earned her the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award and Medal. She was personally responsible for the development and staffing of precedent setting work for industry agreements between SSC Charleston and Electronic Data Systems (EDS) in support of the Navy's transition to the Navy and Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI).

The results of Gail's work have become the model for Navy-wide use in developing partnerships between Working Capital Fund entities in support of the NMCI. As with a contract of this scope and magnitude, extensive questions arose in the nature of contracting and personnel and property. Gail responded with energy, insight and enthusiasm to matters having high level interest and urgent deadlines. Each time she provided sound and practical legal advice and innovation in circumstances where the guidebook was being written, not read. Her efforts have produced a winning solution for both the Navy and EDS, while protecting the Navy's interests both as a customer and a partner.

Hicks and Ward recognized for 'superior' service

Congratulations are also in order for **Freddie W. Hicks**, head of the Business Services Department's Finance Division (J12), and **James D. Ward**, head of the Command and Control Systems Department (J60), who were recognized for their outstanding service. They each received the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award during a command-wide video teleconference.

Freddie played a major contributing role in the tremendous success of SSC Charleston's (and its predecessors) financial programs dating back to his arrival on April 17, 1994. In an atmosphere requiring the implementation of massive organizational changes brought on by BRAC decisions, which affected multiple mission programs and work sites, complicated by DoN adoption of several major accounting system changes, Freddie provided unparalleled personal competence in financial management and superior leadership in the direction of skilled professionals to ensure the timely accomplishment of organizational goals. In spite of ever-changing adversities, he acted to see that the financial operations of SSC Charleston excelled. Customers' needs have been met. Overhead costs have been kept to a minimum. Management has had accurate reports for making difficult decisions. Fluctuations in work-year rates charged to customers have been controlled. Command fiduciary responsibilities have been executed in conformance with federal laws and policies. The impact of Freddie's achievements in financial management and his effective support of the command's mission assignments has been exceptional.

James' exceptional performance, characterized by innovative leadership, proactive management style and ability to lead technical teams in the resolution of highly complex engineering problems earned him this honor. He has been the keystone of major command initiatives with implications extending throughout the claimancy, leading a multi-command East Coast Consolidation Team in planning and directing the successful integration of NWCF elements of NTCS Washington, Jacksonville, and Pensacola, and NCTAMSLANT Norfolk into SSC Charleston. This consolidation achieved an expanded product line, offering the customer a more complete range of information technology services, with approximately 60 percent growth in SSC Charleston's staffing. Additionally, the merger established a major point of presence for SSC Charleston in key geographic areas.

As command lead for the production engineering process, James was tasked with the responsibility of devising a claimancy-wide process for consolidating production engineering at SSC Charleston. Under his astute guidance, James established a cross departmental team which conducted an extensive study of governments and commercial processes for production engineering, including: contracts, funding, facilities, and transportation. The team's innovative plan for restructuring process engineering within the entire claimancy will have extensive implications for both headquarters and the Systems Centers, resulting in reduced costs, improved interoperability through end-to-end engineering and enhanced maintainability through standardization of like products.

Kirkpatrick earns 'exemplary achievement' award

E xecutive Director Don Bailey presented an exemplary achievement award to **Thomas L. Kirkpatrick**. As the principal hardware and systems engineer in the Technical Operations Branch (J71B) of the information Warfare Exploitation Systems Engineering Division, Tom designed system interfaces in support of subsystem integration in Ships Signals Exploitation Equipment Increment D3 system. His skill in presenting system hardware aspects during the critical design review contributed significantly to this system passing the review quickly and without incident.

Tom spearheaded the integration of the hostile-forces integrated targeting system that brings state-of-the-art geolocation using time and frequency difference arrival techniques. He was responsible for proposing and being responsible for the initial design for a threat warning system submitted to the U.S. Army Special Operations Command for improving its quick response capabilities.

Tom was one of the engineers responsible for designing the hardware subsystems of the joint threat warning system that provides the next generation of land, sea, and air components designed to provide advanced threat warnings. He served as the principal representative to the Maritime Cryptologic Architecture working group to ensure interoperability within the sphere of information warfare.

The impact of Tom's personal achievements in hardware and systems engineering has been unmistakably beneficial in the support of SSC Charleston's mission assignments.

Teams achieve goals — earn awards

■ The Digital Modular Radio Test Team

The SPAWAR Award of Merit for Group Achievement was recently earned by the **Digital Modular Radio Test Team**. Their technical engineering skills have been critical to the development of automated, flexible, smaller, more powerful and software upgradeable equipment, fully interoperable with legacy radio systems.

Outfitting a ship with DMR will allow the maximum mission requirements to drive the total number of radios, rather than maximizing each radio by waveform and frequency. Overall required radio counts will decrease.

This team was directly responsible for delivering a state-of-the-art system that will save the fleet precious resources and will provide cutting edge communications capability into the 21st century.


The Digital Modular Radio Test Team: (seated l-r) Mike Shirley, Gary Gardner, and Mike Gullberg; (standing l-r) David Smoak, Chriss All, Majid Dash, Richard Anderson, and Brad Hoisington. Not pictured: Mike Robinson, Jim Criddle, and William Jackson.

The End-to-End Testing Team

SSC Charleston worked diligently for several years to ensure that systems deployed within the fleet and other naval commands were not affected by the advent of Y2K. Tests were designed to validate end-to-end (ETE) capability down to the interface level to ensure a Y2K failure would not occur. These ETE tests verified date-related operations across multiple system interfaces to minimize the risk to the Navy of Y2K ETE failures.

SPAWAR's ETE Testing Team tested over 230 SPAWAR systems, performed over 1,500 actual test events, and analyzed many other systems' Y2K vulnerabilities to minimize the risk of Y2K ETE failures. This testing effort also assisted the fleet Battle Group Systems Integration Testing Y2K testing effort for five deploying battle groups and amphibious readiness groups. Furthermore, the ETE Testing Team supported the Y2K operational verifications for the *USS John F. Kennedy* Battle Group pierside, CENTCOM, and DISA. They also tested numerous U.S. Coast Guard Systems for Y2K compliance in the ETE environment.
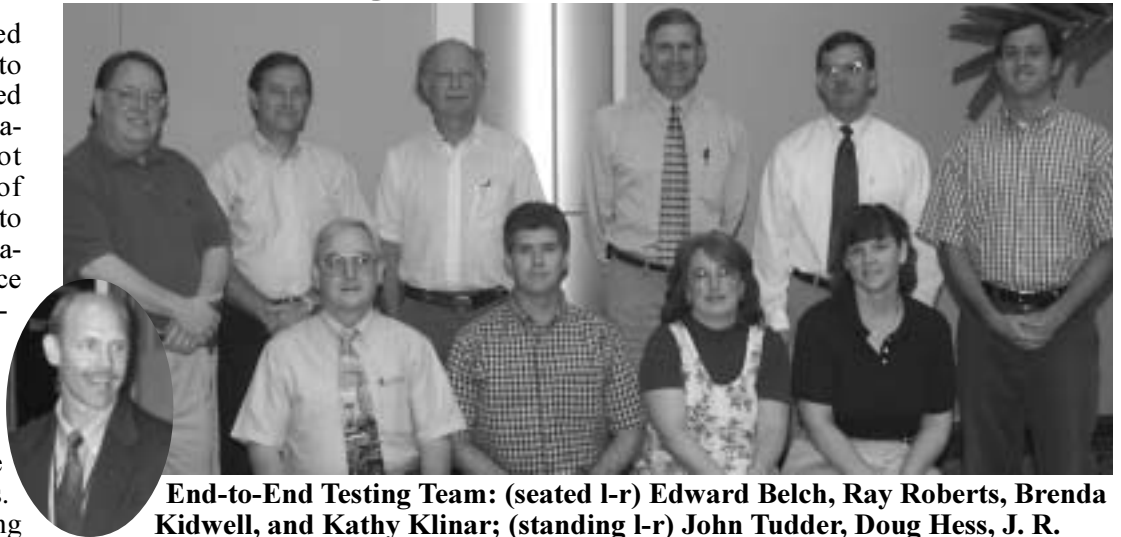
End-to-End Testing Team: (seated l-r) Edward Belch, Ray Roberts, Brenda Kidwell, and Kathy Klinar; (standing l-r) John Tudder, Doug Hess, J. R. Sawyer, Bob Ballentine, Tom Glaab, and Mike Massenet. Inset: Phil Charles. Not pictured: Amanda Patterson, Bob Moyer, James Bishop, Mark Hartgrove, Kenneth McGaha, Lt. Cmdr. Shumberger, Wayne Gause, Lt. Cmdr. John Payne, Hank Winters, Edwin Butler, Marc Proulx, Will Gex, Francis Allston, Harriet Anthony, James Condon, Laurie Rice, Phil Sobolewski, Luis Celorio, Mac Gignilliat, Bert Corley, Michael Masters, and Michael Rice.

The team worked extremely demanding hours, weekdays, nights, and weekends to execute these tests and build integrated engineering processes and tools that could be used, not only for Y2K, but also for all future developmental testing efforts. This team was the driving force behind the SPAWAR integration environment which was central to this Y2K interoperability testing effort. This provided the connectivity between the many SPAWAR systems that are located in numerous labs throughout the country and enabled the testing of the systems' interfaces by passing date-related data between them.

The greatest tribute to the team's efforts is the fact that not one major Y2K fault occurred to a SPAWAR system on Jan. 1, 2000. Their efforts identified 113 essential fleet capabilities that would have severely degraded Battle Group operations had they not been corrected as a result of the lab tests. This process allowed the Navy to save approximately $200 million had conventional methods been used to test and assess systems for every Battle Group. This effort was recognized by the Chief of Naval Operation's Y2K office as a key reason that no mission critical failures occurred during the critical date transitions.

The Production Engineering Team

The Production Engineering Team earned the SPAWAR Award of Merit for Group Achievement for their significant contributions in the successful production engineering concept and the stand up of the RCP&I facility at Charleston.

The team's individual leadership, initiative, and technical contributions were the key factors in the coordination required to establish this process. Their innovative plan for restructuring process engineering within the entire claimancy will have extensive implications for both headquarters and the Systems Centers, resulting in reduced costs, improved interoperability through end to end engineering and enhanced maintainability through standardization of like products.

Production Engineering Team: (seated l-r) Howard Parsons, John Chap, and Pete Van De Meulebroecke; (standing l-r) Daniella Charles, Ben Posadas, and Al Ware. Not pictured: Ken Slaughter and Scott Crellin.

Bill McArn
earns first place area-wide 'Heroism and Valor' award

■ **The Federal Executive Association of the Greater Charleston Area selected William McArn as the area winner in the Heroism/Valor category.**
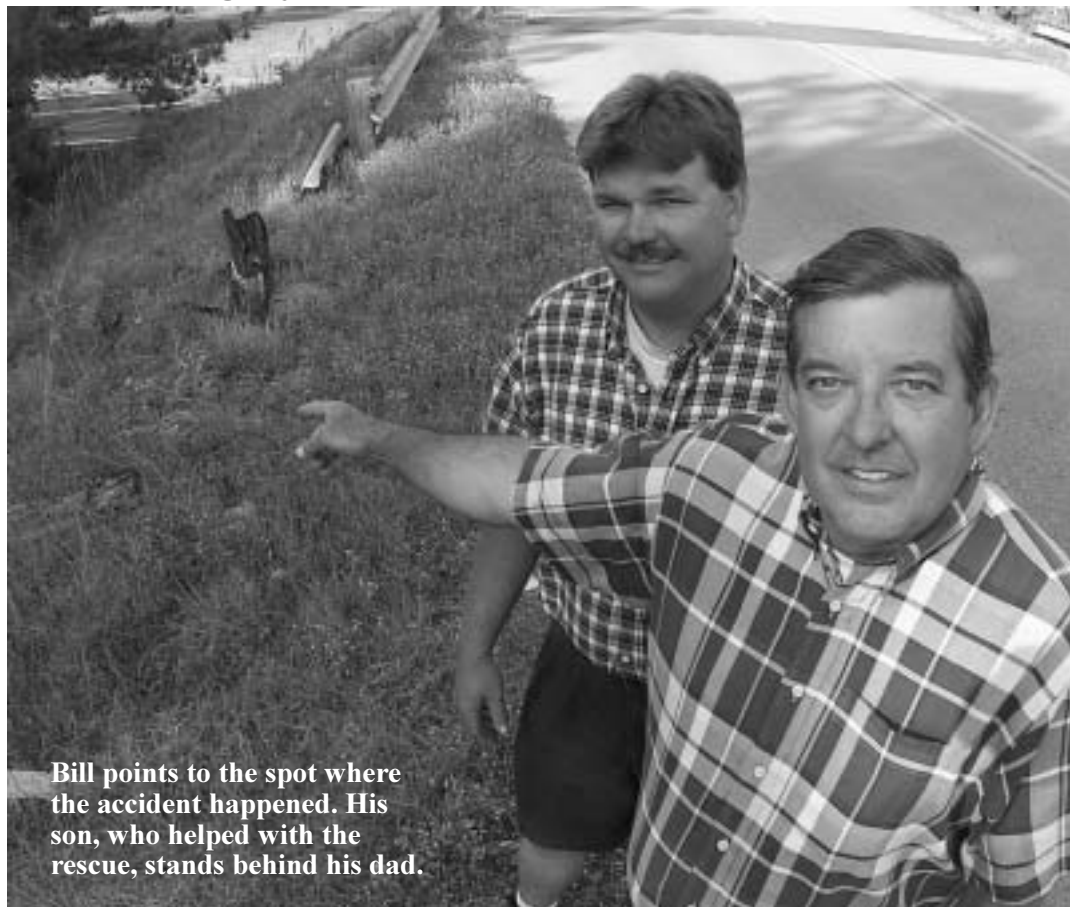
Bill points to the spot where the accident happened. His son, who helped with the rescue, stands behind his dad.

William (Bill) McArn is a technical specialist in the Materiel Management Branch (J131), and because of an off-duty unselfish act, he earned the title of the Federal Executive Association of Greater Charleston 2001 Federal Employee of the Year in the Heroism/Valor category.

On a Saturday afternoon in March, Bill McArn, along with his son and a nephew, was driving down a Dorchester County road when they came upon an accident that had just happened. A car had crashed into a bridge's guardrail which was pushed through the engine compartment and into the passenger-side front seat; the car was in flames, and full of smoke. Gas was shooting from the fuel pump and into the cab of the vehicle. Time was critical, and the situation was extremely dangerous.

The three men quickly approached and, without thinking of the danger to themselves, began rescuing the victims trapped inside. The driver was screaming for them to get his baby out. The men could not see through the dense smoke, but felt around until they found the six-month old baby in the back seat, and pulled him to safety. Bill and his son then dragged the badly hurt driver from the burning vehicle just as the flames hit the fuel tank and the vehicle exploded. Mere seconds meant the difference between life and death — not only for the crash victims, but also for the rescuers.

The driver was in the hospital for a while and lost his right foot. The baby has fully recovered. Both of these Lowcountry residents owe their lives to the selfless acts of Bill and his family. But they do not consider themselves heroes, just someone who saw a need and did what they could to help.

Integrated Installation Team earns first place area-wide outstanding team award

■ **The Federal Executive Association of the Greater Charleston Area selected SSC Charleston's Integrated Installation Team as the area winner in the Team category.**

Integrated Installation Team: (seated l-r) Karen Brewer (54KB), Donna Murphy (1113), and Ann Howell (0AL); (standing l-r) Mike Johnson (0F), Mike Roys (0CMR), Jonathan Searight (63D), Bob Howell (513RH), and Lt.Cmdr. Mike Shumberger (32MS).

(The following people were also instrumental in this team's success, although not named on the actual award: William Paggi, Joliene Bowers, Paulette Dillard, Brad Steele, Randall Keller, John Simpson, Gary Kessler, Dennis Battle, William Schneider, Donald Miller, Dean Glace, Sharon Girardi, and William Foxworth.)

The SPAWAR Award of Merit for Group Achievement was presented to the Integrated Installation Team for their contribution to the preparation and execution of a complex procurement of integrated electronics installation services.

This procurement provided the services to annually install approximately 850 communication, computer network, navigation, and surveillance systems in Atlantic Fleet ships and shore sites. The contract fostered innovation by consolidating the work of approximately 25 separate contractor companies and integrating many individual installations into single installs for each ship and shore site. As a result of the team's efforts, reductions in disturbances to customers' operations, improvements in interoperability, greater effectiveness in testing and training, and lower administrative, management, and performance costs were achieved.

This team issued multiple award contracts to three companies with a value of $456 million and highly competitive proposals in terms of technical capability and cost realism. The team's efforts gave awardees strong incentives to reduce and control costs during the five-year duration of these contracts. The team's procurement gave strong emphasis to the promotion of the command's small business subcontracting business goals.

The Integrated Installation Team's accomplishments in improved efficiency and economy of government operations through cost savings in actual dollars, an estimated $11 million cost avoidance in economies of scale and actual savings in administrative effort are truly noteworthy contributions in achieving SSC Charleston's goals and objectives.

1ST

Bob Bush —
outstanding manager and executive

Bob Bush is the director of the Corporate Information and Management Systems Division (J43). He is also the deputy for the South East region of the Computer Information Technology Department (J40A-2).

Within these roles, Bob leads a 125-member team geographically distributed in Charleston, S.C., Pensacola and Jacksonville, Fla. He provides all IT support to this command — a $1.4 billion fee-for-service activity that provides command and control solutions for the DoN, where state-of-the-art IT is critical to our success.

Through his unique blend of management style and technical competence, Bob formed a top-notch IT division with a customer service satisfaction rating consistently over 90 percent. He instills a strong work ethic using his adapted four points management technique: Do what's right — it's right to be honest; do your best — strive for excellence; treat people fairly — with dignity and respect; and have fun every day. With over 125 federal employees and contractors from half a dozen separate companies, Bob created a close-knit team. He integrated two new regional sites in Florida, a particularly challenging event because of the technologically disparate information systems and applications, and the geographic separation.

A true leader, Bob forms and mentors small teams who share their ideas, their knowledge, and experience while supporting the project at hand. He instills in them the camaraderie to exchange ideas and expertise. Bob's retention of employees and ability to intellectually drive personnel toward more rewarding levels and other peer-related command positions are trademarks of his leadership.

Nelson Ard —
outstanding scientific and professional employee

Nelson Ard, the chief engineer for the Corporate Information Technology Department (J40), is consistently placed in charge of programs of the utmost importance and visibility.

A highly articulate and technical engineering leader, Nelson is a credit to the challenging programs that he always accepts and successfully implements.

Remember the year 2000, or Y2K as it was called? Nelson was our coordinator. Entering the year 2000, Nelson was at SSC Charleston's nerve center, poised to ensure the Navy smoothly transitioned into the 21st century. We are a $1.4 billion fee-for-service activity, providing command and control solutions for the Navy and DoD. The ability to provide reliable IT support to the command's 2,500 engineers and IT professionals was paramount. Nelson ensured the smooth Y2K turnover of the command's IT, environmental, and security systems, and local essential support systems in place to respond to the needs of the fleet. Nelson represented DoD at a forum of local community and government leaders to prepare the public information campaign. This forum sought to share insights and research, across the business, public service, and Defense establishment.

Nelson also directed the SPAWAR Washington Liaison Office test node engineering effort. He rapidly assembled a team of experts, fought for and obtained seed funding, and led the technical engineering and development effort to prepare for the installation of SPAWAR's premier command and control systems. This was particularly challenging because it included integration of seven critical systems that were still being defined, in concert with an evolving program baseline at SPAWAR headquarters, as well as the integration of essential facilities and systems in the building.

Nelson's latest challenge is being the command's Navy/Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) coordinator. He is currently guiding the command to successful implementation of the Navy's new IT outsourcing contract. The smoothness of the command's Y2K transition and the success of the SPAWAR test node design effort is credited to Nelson's effective planning, engineering, and leadership in forming teams that span an organization that crosses multiple states.

Nelson continually helps coworkers grow individually and succeed collectively by forming and mentoring small, fast-acting teams that share their knowledge while working to a common goal, thus helping them gain valuable experience while supporting the project at hand.

Marquis Sailor —
outstanding supervisor

Marquis Sailor heads the Tactical Switching Branch (J511) within the Communication Systems Department. J511's specific tasking is interior communication voice systems with emphasis on Navy shipboard requirements.

A variety of systems make up the internal communications backbone and life line for U.S. Navy ships, providing the conduit for routine and urgent information interchange throughout the ships during routine patrols or in the heat of battle. Marquis provides the program management necessary to ensure these systems are properly installed and supported. He is also responsible to ensure these systems can successfully integrate with other external communication systems, expanding the stream of information available to ship personnel.

As a supervisor, Marquis is highly respected by his branch members, peers, subordinates, and the contractor base that he oversees. That respect carries over to others within the command, to the customers that fund his programs, and to the users that rely on his branch's product to serve them 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in normal times and stressful situations.

Marquis' most outstanding character trait is that he is a man of consistent integrity, completely sincere in his commitments to his work and to those that work for him. His positive efforts greatly enhance command performance and morale and provide the Navy with the best in tactical switching and internal communication systems. Marquis' exceptional integrity-based leadership style directly impacts his success in discharging the requirements of his position.

Holding Navy core values as a guide, Marquis coaches and counsels subordinates to do their best, quietly persisting on development within their profession, and individually helping them reach goals they thought unattainable — all reinforced by personal example. He is always there to answer questions, solve problems, or just give encouragement. His dedication to his employees goes above and beyond the term "supervisor" — he is truly a mentor, a motivator, a friend, and one who cares about this organization and its people.

Charles Gibson —
outstanding technician or assistant

Charles Gibson is an electronics technician in the Integrated Display Systems Branch (J615). He is responsible for shipboard video systems acquisition, integration, testing, and installation support. These systems are installed on naval flagship aircraft carriers, nuclear aircraft carriers, amphibious warfare class ships and shore-based facilities. Charles far exceeded his responsibilities by functioning as a project engineer and tailoring the system designs to meet individual ship requirements.

Charles redesigned video systems to comply with shipboard requirements, and within the department, has been solely responsible for evaluating and testing video wall display technology for Navy use, effecting a recommendation that he successfully implemented during an upgrade on the *USS Carl Vinson*. Charles successfully planned and executed the study of existing video wall technologies, borrowed equipment from vendors, tested it in our labs, and prepared a detailed report. In September 2000, Charles presented his results to fleet type commanders, ship combat system maintenance officers, government engineers, and contractor personnel. He has also briefed Pacific and Atlantic type commanders, both air and surface, for using this technology to solve various display requirements. As a direct result, SSC Charleston is at the forefront of all Navy discussions relative to display technology and requirements — paving the way for the technology to be designated by the Warfare Program Office a *program of record* and designated video in-service engineering agency.

Through his dedication and perseverance, Charles has continued to help SSC Charleston be recognized as video and display experts and one of the premier C4ISR engineering organizations in the world.
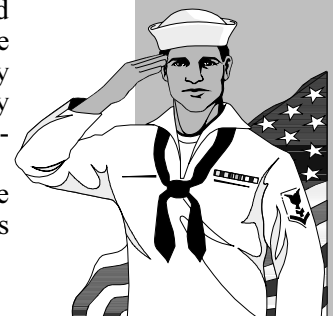
Brenda Kidwell —
outstanding clerical or administrative employee

Employees of the year...

Brenda Kidwell is the lead financial analyst for the Joint Information Systems Division (J63) and is responsible for initiating proactive teaming at the division and branch level. This encompasses numerous locations around the world, as well as other division financial codes within the Command and Control Systems Department (J60).

A more efficient and motivated departmental financial and administrative team is a result of Brenda's initiatives. She has been proactive in working with the IT department in obtaining accurate cost information for reports and data calls. Brenda has designed reports that provide the analytical data required to determine our current fiscal status as well as predict our future posture. As a result of her leadership, J63 managed total operating authority growth from $100 million to $250 million over a three-year period with fewer financial support personnel, and while supporting an increasingly diverse customer base. Personnel from other departments, as well as other commands, frequently consult Brenda because of her comprehensive knowledge of DoD and the Navy's financial programs.

As J63's lead financial analyst, Brenda is an inspiration and a mentor to those who work with her. She organizes off-site meetings for the branch level financial analysts, and provides guidance and instruction regarding division and command financial policies, as well as federal rules and regulations regarding funds administration and appropriations. During these meetings, the department team was organized and goals for success in creating informative and accurate financial reporting were defined. These off-site gatherings have resulted in exceptional improvements in attitude, communication, and enthusiasm among the members of the financial team, as well as the creation of new processes. And under Brenda's leadership, SSC Charleston established a process that allows us to predict our sales with exceptional accuracy.

Clifford Lewis —
outstanding trade
or craft employee

Clifford A. Lewis is a technician for the Fire Control/Optical and Non-Tactical Repair Branch within the engineering Support Facility Division.

His extensive technical background encompasses the responsibility for manufacturing parts and building electric motors and generators for surface craft and submarines, and machine shop management. Clifford also has experience with submarine periscopes, range finders, magnetic compasses, and binoculars. He has designed and manufactured molds for circuit board pin covers, built molds for encapsulation of cable for submarines, and performed sea swing on surface craft for magnetic compasses. Clifford wrote the program to facilitate swinging the ship in one turn to calculate deviations.

Clifford is SSC Charleston's centralized cable plant (CCP) project on-site representative. This project involves design, installation, and testing of a 1000-node fiber optic cable plant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). He performs installations, and oversees and guides the work of the installation contractors. As a liaison, Clifford interfaces with the FBI and the CCP prime contractor. He monitors the contractor to ensure the installation is done according to the plan, inspecting incoming material for damage, and conducting pre-installation and post-installation inspections.

As the only SSC Charleston employee with tool and die maker expertise, Clifford uses this scarce skill to expand the command's client base. He also designed a database for the Navy brig to trace conduit. Clifford consistently applies his computer skills to practical job applications and is currently training for the cable installation level 2 certification for his current work with the CCP project.

over 756 years
of experience lost when 27 retire
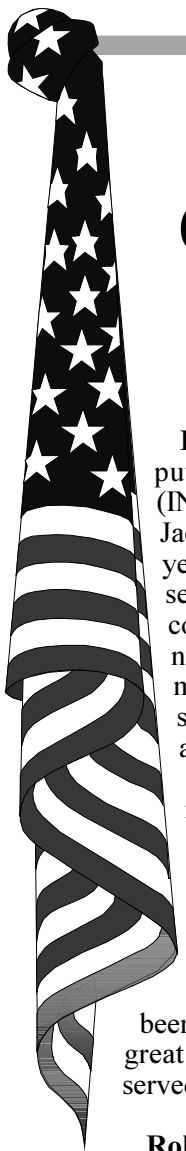
Fredrick M. Asensio, Jr., a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the Information Security (INFOSEC) and Acquisition Branch (J753) in our Jacksonville office, retired April 30 following 29 years and 11 months of faithful and dedicated service. With this office since June 1988, Fred consistently performed demanding duties in a number of different positions in an exemplary manner. He excelled at team work and client support, specifically as an INFOSEC specialist and instructor.

Fred's various positions throughout his career have taken him to sea on submarines, carriers, and surface vessels. Prior to SSC Charleston, Fred served in the U.S. Army, the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, the Naval Aviation Engineering Service Unit, and the Naval Aviation Depot, Jacksonville. His professionalism, skills, and loyal devotion to duty have been recognized by many organizations and reflect great credit upon himself and the commands he served.

Robert S. Boggs, a DP-334-III technical specialist in the Defense Messaging System and Web Technical Services Branch (J762) in the National Capitol Region office, retired May 3 following 27 years and three months of loyal and dedicated service.

As a computer systems analyst for Naval Telecommunication and Automation Support Center, which merged with SSC Charleston, Robert was involved in the development of software for the remote information exchange terminal (also known as standard remote terminals—RIXT SRT). He subsequently became the RIXT team leader, responsible for the system and a 10-15 member team who further developed and maintained the system.

In 1992, Robert evaluated an open system technology which is being used in the replacement of the AUTODIN system with the Defense Message System (DMS). Most recently, Robert was the team leader and technical point of contact in support of Defense Information Systems Agency where he provided engineering and consulting services to them for DMS.

Carolyn E. Bohanan, a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) in our Jacksonville, Fla., office, retired April 30 following 13 years and eight months of dedicated service.

Carolyn joined the Navy Regional Data Automation Center and Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station, Jacksonville (which merged with SSC Charleston) in August 1987. Since that time, she consistently performed in an exemplary manner while quickly learning a variety of skills. Carolyn's excellent team work and client support included programming and software process improvement liaison for the Interactive Computer Aided Provisioning system project, certification and accreditation of Naval District Washington systems, and programming support for the enhanced ships technical publications system (ESTEPS). Her role on the ESTEPS project is especially notable—her contribution in the successful transition of the project from Port Hueneme to Jacksonville, and also for eliminating all tape processing from ESTEPS, which resulted in significant cost savings to the customer.

Carolyn also made a positive contribution to the Defense Commissary Agency project in which you assisted with the successful installation of new cable plants at over 100 commissary installations across the United States.

Edith Chapman, a DS-334-III computer specialist in the Defense Messaging System and Web Technical Services Branch (J762) in the National Capital Region office, retired May 1 following 33 years and one month of faithful and dedicated service.

Throughout her career, Edith excelled in her various duties. In 1974, she accepted a position as a military personnel technician supervisor, and in 1978 was selected for an Upward Mobility position. After her successful training, Edith was promoted to a computer programmer. In 1986, she transferred to the Naval Regional Data Automation Center (which merged with SSC Charleston) as a GS-12 programmer analyst. Here, she designed and implemented a skills database that listed the capabilities of all the computer personnel in the command. Most recently, Edith served as a member of the intranet support staff in the National Capital Region office. She also served as treasurer for the local morale, welfare and recreation committee.

Frederick W. Coleman, retired May 3 following more than 40 years of faithful and dedicated service to this country, to the fleet, and to this command. He is commended for his professional achievements and superior performance of duties while serving SSC Charleston's National Capital Region office.

From 1964 to 1977, Fred was a computer operator for the IBM 1400, 360, and 370 series computers at the Naval Command systems Support Activity. Over the years, he excelled in many areas of computer programming and advanced to a GS-12 computer analyst in 1979. In 1980, Fred was assigned to the Washington Navy Yard and continued

to develop computer programs, producing many systems for the Navy. In 1991, he transferred to the Military Sealift Command's trouble desk, where he received several letters of recognition. Most recently, Fred continued this outstanding service in support of our National Capital Region office seat management support efforts.

Robert P. Cornish, a DP-334-IV manager of the LAN/MAN Support Services Division in Jacksonville, Fla., retired May 3 after serving 29 years and one month of dedicated service. Bob's federal career began in July 1975 as a computer programmer analyst at the Navy Regional Data Automation Center in Washington, D.C., where he worked with application system software involving naval aircraft inventory management and modeling. Five years later, Bob took a position with the Navy Regional Data Automation Center in Jacksonville, Fla., as a computer systems programmer. In April 1986, he became the Systems Software and Communications Division head, and later the Automated Data Processing technical director, at the Trident Refit Facility (TRF) in Kings Bay, Ga.

While at TRF, Bob established the hardware and software infrastructure for operation and intercommunication between 13 newly constructed buildings for the new TRF command. As ADP technical director, he managed 85 people in support of all business information technology.

Bob transferred to the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Jacksonville (which merged with SSC Charleston) in April 1991 as software engineering director. He succeeded in establishing an aggressive plan to implement the capability maturity model level 2 and 3 defined standard software processes into the software engineering department. Bob achieved Level 2 certification with a reduction in project costs of $800,000 which enabled the department to increase customer workload by reducing cost/schedule overruns and increasing quality.

In 1999, Bob became the regional area senior manager for SSC Charleston's Jacksonville office where he directed the LAN/MAN/WAN personnel in the networking and end user support arenas.

Janet L. David retired May 3 after serving more than 29 years of faithful and dedicated service to the government, to this country, and this command. Until her retirement, Janet had been with our Jacksonville office (previously the Navy Regional Data Automation Center and Naval Computer Telecommunication Station, Jacksonville) since August 1992.

Throughout her career, Janet has filled many roles as computer analyst, programmer, systems programmer, data administrator, and database administrator. Most recently, she completed the analysis, design, and development of the skills database, which tracks the skills and expertise of information technology professionals. Janet made a positive contribution to the software development effort for the U.S. Army Personnel Claims System, as well as the Defense Commissary Agency network upgrade project. She assisted with the successful installation of new cable plants at over 100 commissary installations across the United States., achieving certification from the National Association of Communication Contractors as a certified installer of fiber optic and category five cabling.

Robert M. Davidson, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the Network Applications Engineering and Implementation Services Branch (J763) in the National Capital Region Office, retired June 3 following 34 years and 8 months of faithful and dedicated service to this country.

Bob gracefully supported the Navy as it transitioned from EAM equipment, second, third, and fourth generation mainframes, telecommunications, teleprocessing, through minicomputers to client-server computing and through the many reorganizations of Navy computing in Washington, D.C.: (1966) for Naval Command systems Support Activity; (1969) for Air Force Data Center, Pentagon; (1981) for Navy Regional Data Automation Center, Washington; (1991) for Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Washington; and (1999) for SSC Charleston NCR.

Bob excelled at team work and client support in all his endeavors, which included services as a mainframe shift supervisor for the Air Force, and then the U.S. Navy in the nation's capital, being in the group that initiated end-user computing and PC maintenance in the Navy's Washington region, and being a great benefit in the group that initiated user PC based computing and region-wide help desk support for the Navy.

Bob received the Meritorious Service Award for saving the Air Force nine hours of print time (originally, a 12-hour job) for the Presidential Budget program.

Edward R. Fiebig, a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) in the Jacksonville office, retired April 30 following 12 years and seven months of service.

Since coming to this command in 1993, Ed consistently performed demanding duties in a number of different positions in an exemplary manner, while quickly learning a variety of skills and effectively performing numerous essential daily tasks. He excelled at client support, most notably proven by the excellent training sessions in information security, which provided valuable information systems security training to thousands of Navy military and civilian security officials. This effort highlighted Ed's commitment to his clients, coworkers, and our country.

Ed also participated in the development and fielding of the successful quality data and analysis system for Kings Bay—a project he can be proud of, as well as his efforts as instructor for the U.S. Army claims system. However, Bob was at his finest when he provided Microsoft Office training. The sessions uniformly received excellent reviews from the students.

Throughout his career—from military service in the U.S. Navy as a pilot and flight instructor, as well as serving as the management information system/automated data processing officer for Naval Air Station Cecil Field—Bob's professional abilities have made important contributions. His demonstrated commitment to excellence has been very
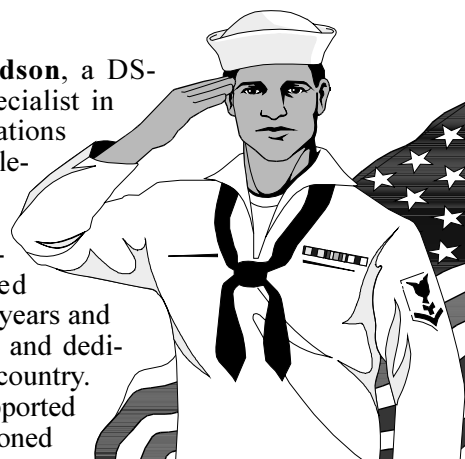
instrumental in maintaining the excellent reputation this command enjoys today.

Jill Fox, a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the LAN Services Branch (J351) in our Jacksonville office, retired May 3 following 25 years of government service.

Jill joined this command in 1976 and through her self-initiative and dedication, she progressed from a GS-3 clerk to a GS-11 computer specialist, completing two Upward Mobility programs in the process. She consistently performed her duties in an exemplary manner while performing numerous essential tasks. This level of support clearly highlights her commitment to her clients, coworkers, and this country.

Jill's support to the budget formulation and execution monitoring system provided the Navy with a valuable budgeting tool. She served as the electronic mail administrator and the key person in developing and maintaining the all-important administrative forms that kept the site's operations in order. Additionally, Jill excelled as the minor property officer for LAN/MAN Division, a job that receives little thanks, but is so important. At every turn she demonstrated the highest level of quality and customer service. Much of the credit for the success of the Jacksonville operation can be attributed to her efforts.

Robin P. Gates, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the Defense Messaging System and Web Technical Services Branch (J762) in the Washington, D.C., office, retired May 3 after 43 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Navy and to our country.

Throughout her government career, Robin was involved in programming and information technology at every level. Most recently, she was tasked with maintaining the command intranet—performing exceptionally well. Robin has earned numerous outstanding performance awards over the years.

Ira Frank Graham, Jr., a DP-855-III engineer in the Strategic Planning Office (J0D), retired April 1 following 32 years of faithful and dedicated government service.

Frank began his federal career in 1968 as an electrical engineer with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at the Kennedy Space Center. In 1974, he joined the former NAVELEX Charleston, a predecessor to SSC Charleston—serving in many capacities. He consistently worked at the highest level of expectation and was always on the cutting edge, anticipating and embracing new technology and new ways of doing things. Additionally, Frank was instrumental in identifying and bringing in new business and developing innovative ways of accomplishing our mission. He accepted change as a challenge to be mastered, and successfully made the shift from focused branch work to command level issues. In every endeavor, Frank maintained high moral and ethical standards, always placing the good of the command and its people first.

Darrell D. Harvey, a DP-334-III technical specialist in the Navy Headquarters Services Branch (J761) in our Washington, D.C., office, retired May 1 after 17 years of dedicated federal service to the Navy and to our country.

Following a 21-year U.S. Air Force career, Darrell began his second career as a civilian employee of the U.S. Navy. His assignments have included multiple projects in the mainframe computer environment, support of the DoN Central Adjudication Facility, and support of the Army Criminal Investigative Reporting System where he served as the team leader responsible for the operations and maintenance of this worldwide system.

During his career, Darrell earned several awards, achieved grade and pay advances, and earned excellent performance ratings.

George B. Hicks, a DP-334-IV manager and head of the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) in our Jacksonville office, retired May 3 following 29 years and four months of dedicated federal service.

George began his career as a Navy officer assigned to the Navy Command Systems Support Activity in Washington, D.C. Following four and a half years in the Navy, George entered civil service at the Navy Regional Data Automation Center in Washington, later transferring to their Jacksonville office. There, George was in charge of the systems software and recovery group for Unisys mainframes, and for the development and implementation of standards for a wide variety of mainframes operated at Jacksonville—eventually being selected to head the Information Resources Division, participating in a number of cutting edge technology projects for various clients.

Myron M. Holmes, a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) in the Jacksonville office, retired April 30 after 18 years and three months of dedicated federal service.

Myron came to this command in November 1988, consistently performing demanding duties. He excelled at client support, most recently proven by the Inspector General visit to the Public Works Center in Jacksonville. This client, one of many Myron directly supported for INFOSEC, passed the inspection of their information security program with no findings. Other clients of Myron's have also obtained the same results during IG visits. His support of the Public Works Center clearly highlights his commitment to all of his clients, coworkers, and this country.

Another recent example of Myron's excellent work was the recent accreditation of the Naval District Washington Metropolitan Area Network. A number of naval activities are linked to this network, requiring accreditation reviews at all sites. Myron led a team that accomplished this huge task in an exemplary manner. His is a highly sought-after INFOSEC instructor. INFOSEC officials who have attended his classes are consistent in their opinions of Myron as "one of a kind." SSC Charleston has received many accreditation projects based on the excellent reputation Myron has an instructor and as an outstanding accreditation reviewer.

Aretta H. Mattox, a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) in the Jacksonville office, retired May 3 following 24 years

and one month of faithful and dedicated service.

Aretta came to this office is August 1987 and has consistently performed demanding duties, while quickly learning a variety of skills and effectively performing numerous essential daily tasks. She filled many roles—as an office automation instructor on the Bases and Stations Information System (BASIS), developing instructor and user guides, and installation of BASIS hardware and software, installing and training users on the use of version control software programs, developing Oracle screens and reports, and serving as an alternate system administrator. Most recently, Aretta made a positive contribution to the Defense Commissary Agency network upgrade project in which she assisted with the successful installation of new cable plants at over 100 commissary installations across the U.S. During this project, Aretta achieved certification from the National Association of Communication Contractors as a certified installer of fiber optic and category five cabling. She is also commended for her contributions towards command functions, and specifically her work with the morale, welfare and recreation committee.

Carol D. Meadows, a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) in the Jacksonville office, retired May 30 following 30 years and 11 months of federal service.

Carol joined this command in August 1987 and has consistently performed demanding duties in a number of different positions, always in an exemplary manner. She quickly learned a variety of skills and effectively performed numerous essential daily tasks.

Carol served as the division/branch property officer, excelling at teamwork and client support in all her endeavors—including programming support of Naval supply systems Command supply and financial systems, Defense Finance Accounting System financial systems documentation and Executive Control Language support, Public Works Center INFOSEC training, certification, and accreditation.

Carol made a positive contribution to the Defense Commissary Agency project in which she assisted with the successful installation of new cable plants at over 100 commissary installations across the U.S. During this project, Carol achieved certification from the National Association of Communication Contractors as a certified installer of fiber optic and category five cabling. Throughout her career, Carol's professional abilities have been recognized by many organizations.

Shirlie M. Ogden, a GS-334-12 computer specialist in the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) at our Jacksonville office, retired May 3 following 33 years and four months of dedicated federal service.

Shirlie excelled at team leadership, teamwork, and client support—proven by the certification and accreditation of the Defense Finance Accounting System STARS system. This client, one of many she directly supported for INFOSEC, has tasked us with other certification and accreditation projects. This additional tasking was due to the high confidence DFAS places in us and is directly the result of the quality of her work. We have received many other INFOSEC projects simply based on the excellent reputation Shirlie had as an instructor and as an accredita-

tion reviewer. She is a highly sought-after INFOSEC specialist—officials throughout the Navy pursued her for advice and consultation regarding aspects of their command's INFOSEC program. Throughout her career, Shirlie's professional abilities have been recognized as first rate.
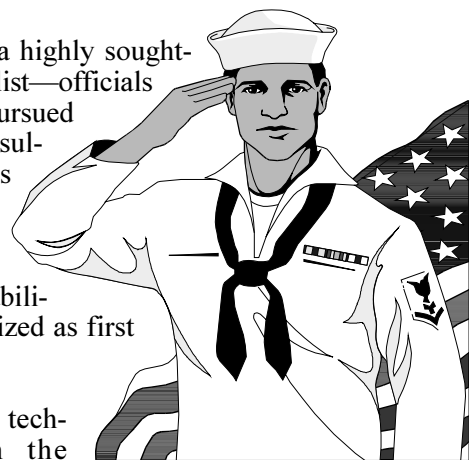
Jo Ellen Pickett, a technical specialist in the Network Applications Engineering and Implementation Services Branch (J763) in our Washington office, retired June 3 following 27 years and three months of dedicated service to this country.

At the end of her career, Jo Ellen supported the Joint Chiefs of Staff (J8) in the Pentagon. She has gracefully supported the navy as it transitioned from mainframes, through minicomputers, to client-server computing, and through the many reorganizations of Navy computing in Washington, D.C.: (1974) for Naval Intelligence Support Center; (1977) for Navy Regional Data Automation Center, Washington; (1991) for Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Washington; and (1999) for SSC Charleston, National Capital Region.

Many organizations, as well as her peers, have recognized Jo Ellen's professional abilities. She has consistently performed demanding duties, while quickly learning a variety of skills and effectively performing numerous, essential daily tasks.

Patricia R. Richards, a DP-391-III supervisor and head of the Network Engineering Branch (J552) at our Pensacola, Fla., office, retired May 3 after 35 years and six months of truly dedicated service to the U.S. government.

Throughout her career, Pat has been a role model for all around her. Her unique abilities and professional approach to all assignments have inspired and encouraged her coworkers to strive for quality in what they do. The integrity with which Pat carried out her responsibilities is recognized and appreciated by all.

Her attention to detail and personal competence have served this command well. Pat's dependability, commitment, and support have been a secure mooring in the chaotic sea of change.

Laura B. Ritter, a GS-334-11 computer specialist in the Information Security and Acquisition Branch (J753) at our Jacksonville office, retired April 30 after serving 17 years and one month of dedicated service to this country.

Laura excelled at teamwork and client support in all her endeavors, including her support on the advanced technical information system and the bases and stations information system. She also served as the system administrator for MicroCSA Communications Network and the revised alternate dataflow systems for Naval Sea Systems Command. She was a procurement analyst for the Information Technology Store and worked with network security surveys in the certification and accreditation of Naval Dis-

trict Washington systems.

In addition, Laura made a positive contribution to the Defense Commissary Agency project in which she assisted with the successful installation of new cable plants at over 100 commissary installations across the United States. During this project, Laura achieved certification from the National Association of Communication Contractors as a certified installer of fiber optic and category five cabling. Laura is also commended for her contributions toward command functions and her work with the Morale, Welfare and Recreation committee.

Deborah E. Smith, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the CSC Operations and Management Services Branch in the National Capital Region, retired June 1 following 25 years and 11 months of faithful and dedicated service to the U.S. government.

Deborah began her career with the Navy as a GS-2 data transcriber for the Naval Computer Support Activity at Washington Navy Yard. Over the years, she advanced to a GS-12 computer specialist, and then to a DS-III technical specialist. Her superlative performance and professional diligence in her assigned duties, aided Deborah's climb up the ladder of success. Throughout her career, many organizations, as well as her peers, recognized her professional abilities.

The technical expertise, commitment to excellence, and teamwork that Deborah consistently demonstrated have been instrumental in establishing the excellent reputation this command now enjoys. Her professionalism, skills, and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon herself and this command.

Horace L. Thompson, a DP-334-IV supervisor and head of the Defense Messaging System and Web Technical Services Branch in the National Capital Region office, retired June 3 following 33 years and nine months of truly dedicated and devoted service.

Following a stint in the U.S. Army, Horace began his civil service career—mainly with the U.S. Navy. His project assignments have covered the technology range of mainframe computers, to mini computers, to client/server, to web development. Horace progressed from a technician, to a team leader, to manager, and received many awards, grade and pay advances, and excellent performance ratings throughout his career.

James A. Walker retired April 12 after a dedicated 40-year career with the U.S. government. Throughout the years, James was a role model for everyone around him.

He transferred to the Navy Data Automation Facility Corpus Christi (now merged with SSC Charleston) in 1982 from the Corpus Christi Army Depot. His progress has been most notable—advancing from a telecommunications technician to supervisor of the Communications Technology Branch at Corpus Christi.

James' telecommunications technical skills earned him the reputation of the person to ask when it comes to naval communications projects in the south Texas area. His tech-

nical advise was often requested by the information technology managers of the two local naval flag commands. James can be proud of his accomplishments in providing the technical leadership over the base level information infrastructure project at NAS Corpus Christi that led to the most significant communications systems upgrade for the base in over 50 years.

James' career has been characterized by honor, courage, and commitment. He fostered the notion that it is teamwork that leads to success, regularly demonstrating this notion while successfully leading his branch. James' attention to technical detail and personal competence has served us well.

Michael Weisman retired April 30 after serving the U.S. government for nearly 24 years. He consistently performed demanding duties in an exemplary manner, excelling at teamwork and client support.

Michael began his civil service career as a computer programmer student trainee in 1977. As a team leader in 1985, he developed expertise in Fortran, Cobol, Integrated Data Base Management System, and Focus 4GL. From 1988 through 1993, Michael served as team leader on several projects for the Marine Corps in support of their budget formulation and workunit tracking subsystems and their publications distribution system. Most recently, as a project manager and liaison, Michael served in the enterprise Requirements Branch of the DoN Information Network Program Office that supports the DoN headquarters network. He provided oversight for projects that established network connectivity from the headquarters network to various Navy offices.

Consulla G. Wilson retired May 3 following over 30 years of dedicated service to the Navy and to our country.

Consulla began her career in 1977 as a GS-4 clerk typist for the Navy Materiel Command at Crystal City. During the ensuing years, she advanced to a GS-5 computer technician for the Naval Regional Data Automation Center at the Washington Naval Shipyard, then from a GS-9 to a GS-12 computer programmer and equipment analyst for NARDAC/Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station - Washington/Defense Information Processing Center, and finally to a DS-III computer specialist at SSC Charleston in the National Capital Region office. Her successful career was due to her superlative performance and professional diligence in her assigned duties. Consulla's expertise and personal competence have served this command and the Navy community well.

Joanna Winkle, a GS-561-6 budget technician in the Orlando Information Technology Support Branch, retired April 30 following a career that spanned 19 years and nine months. With the Navy Regional Data Automation Center and Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Jacksonville (now merged with SSC Charleston) from May 1981 until her retirement, Joanna consistently performed her duties in an exemplary manner, while effectively performing numerous essential tasks. She excelled at client support to the Naval Air Warfare Center, Training Systems Division in Orlando, Fla. — a level of support which clearly highlights her commitment to clients, coworkers, and our

country.

Joanna's support to the Electronic Training Environment team demonstrated the highest level of quality. While coordinating numerous details in support of customer requirements, she responded quickly and reliably to requests for project documentation and assisted the program manager with budget related activities. Of special note was Joanna's ability to coordinate the activities involved with various on-site meetings, such as the Authoring Instructional Materials Functional Review Board, Integrated Product teams, and the USMC electronic classroom integration software testing. Much of the credit for the success of those meetings are attributed to her efforts.
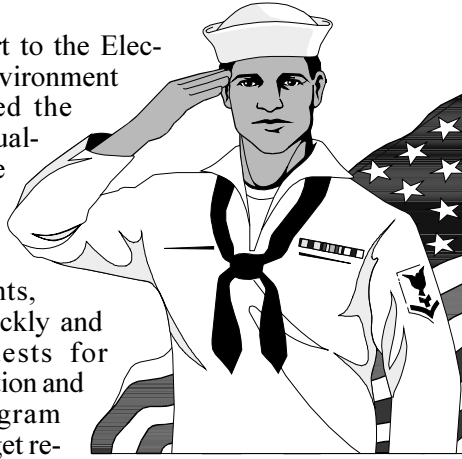
To each of you we say, "thank you for a job well done!" You have served your country, the U.S. Navy, and SSC Charleston very well. While the loss of your expertise, your shared experiences, and your individual abilities will surely be felt throughout the Navy community, your long years of devoted service to the fleet, to this command, and our country have truly earned you this retirement.

We wish for each of you many years of good health, prosperity, happiness, and joy. We salute you for your many years of faithful service, and in the traditional Navy way, we wish you...

Fair winds and following seas!

Our deepest sympathy...

to the family, friends, and former co-workers of **Lavera Berry Byrd**.

The Chronicle was deeply saddened to hear of Lavera's death on Mother's Day, May 13, in Charleston. She was 80.

Lavera, a retired administrative assistant with the former NAVELEX Charleston, was the widow of retired USAF Major Kenneth Byrd. She is survived by a son, Colonel Kenneth A. Byrd, of Travis AFB, Calif., and a daughter, Patricia B. McCormick of Jackson, N.J.; two sisters, and four grandchildren.

Marie Edmonds Retires
By Janet Carter
Team Leader, Technology
Training Center Norfolk

When I think of a leader, several images come to mind. Images that illustrate a person who is diplomatic, communicative, strong, balanced, customer focused, goal-oriented and positive. A visionary. A motivator. The first person that comes to my mind is **Marie Edmonds**, former head of SSC Charleston's Technology Training Center in Norfolk.

Marie retired in May from a very distinguished career. Working with her was a tremendous pleasure and lifetime opportunity. The training organization's success was largely attributed to Marie's outstanding leadership after she joined NARDAC Norfolk's staff [now merged with SSC Charleston] as a technology trainer. Previously, Marie was in the Operations Div. of the Data Processing Department at the Naval Supply Center (NSC) where she was responsible for writing Standard Operating Procedures. She was also instrumental in the implementation of the first minicomputer systems at NSC. **Donna Baker**, a former colleague of Marie's from SPAWAR and NSC, said, Marie "always provided outstanding customer support and often worked with the financial folks to ensure the integrity of their data. She genuinely cared about her job and the people she worked with on a daily basis."

Marie was promoted to head the Microcomputer Education Branch after serving as instructor. She propelled the training organization into every new technology trend as it happened, from the Intel 80286 days all the way into the 21st Century. Key contributions include the Navy Zenith 248 maintenance course for the fleet, the European training program for the U.S. Army Europe, the Navy Micro conference technology symposiums and support for the Hazardous Substance Management System. Most recently, the training center is recognized as a Microsoft Certified Partner and is a former Microsoft Certified Solution Provider.

An employee development advocate, Marie knew that when you taught a course, you had to be prepared. She ensured each instructor had the resources to be an expert in their field. She gave direction, then allowed individuals to use their own creative talents to figure out the details. Marie wanted to exceed each customer's expectations — under promise, and over deliver. She believed we should figure out *how* to deliver a customer's solution, not *if* we can deliver.

Marie received numerous service awards during her federal career, but the most prestigious was the 1992 Federal 100. This award, given to individuals who made a difference in the federal systems community, was issued by *Federal Computer Week* and co-sponsored by FOSE '92. In my opinion, Marie made a significant difference in the federal systems community every year, not just in 1992. Thanks to Marie for being an outstanding leader, colleague, mentor and friend. We know she is enjoying every moment of retirement life!

Robert Lee Warner

Bob Warner is pictured here with his family. Top row (l-r): Michelle, Bob, and Melissa. Bottom row (l-r): Brian, Kayla, and Sarah.

Robert Lee Warner, a DT-856-III FBI electronic team leader in the Fire Control/Optical/NTR Branch (J622) of the Engineering Support Facility Division, and husband of **Michele Warner** (J624), passed away May 21 following a long battle with cancer. He was 45.

"Bob first came to work at the Module Maintenance Facility in the Charleston Naval Shipyard in May 1982 as an electronics mechanic," said **Lamar Watkins**, J622 branch head. "Bob drove a 1966 red Chevy pick-up truck with a 350 corvette engine, that was his pride and joy.

"He was like a walking encyclopedia," Lamar said. "He could enlighten anyone about cars, engines, electronics, computers, LANs, etc. When we needed information hard to find, Bob would be our first choice to contact. He had a positive attitude and it reflected on the rest of us. He was always calm and gentle. Bob could work with anyone and never raised his voice. He was a natural leader and everyone respected him. It was my honor to have Bob working with me. All of us are grieving along with Michele and family, but I know the Lord will have a special place reserved for Bob. Special friends are never forgotten, and one day we all hope to visit him."

Bob's wife Michelle said, "Bob was the light of my life, my partner, my best friend, the father of my children. He was the most amazing man I have ever met. Any of you who had the pleasure of knowing him, know what I am talking about. Nothing meant more to Bob than his family. We would have celebrated our 11th anniversary on May 26. We have worked together in the same building for the past 19 years. We shared four children together. He never ceased to amaze me at just what he could fix both at work and around the house. He excelled in everything he did. He was so patient and kind that I hope I can follow his example to continue to raise our children. He was dedicated to his family, to his job, and to his golf game. He is now an angel in Heaven and his memory lives in our hearts. I want to thank everyone who showed their outpouring of love during Bob's illness and recent death. Words cannot express the gratitude and love that we feel toward you. May God bless all of you!"

Bob, described by coworkers as a family man and a friend to everyone, enjoyed his family, golf, motorcycling, fishing, hiking, and gardening. In addition to his wife Michelle, he is survived by a son, Brian Matthew Warner; three daughters, Sarah Amanda Warner, Melissa Nicole Saukas, and Kayla Leanne Warner; five brothers, three sisters, and several nieces and nephews. He will be sadly missed by family, friends, and coworkers.

SSC Charleston and the Antarctic Aviation Technical Services Program receive special honor

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston (SPAWARSYSCEN, Charleston) Antarctic Aviation Technical Services (ATS) Program is a federal program that provides Air Traffic Control, Meteorological, Electronic Systems Maintenance, engineering and support services to the United States Antarctic Program (USAP); and

Whereas, there exists a signed Memorandum of Agreement between the National Science Foundation (NSF) and SPAWARSYSCEN Charleston for Engineering and ATS support; and

Whereas, the ATS deploys to the Antarctic up to eighty (80) contractor and government personnel each Austral summer (operating season) in support of the USAP; and

Whereas, these deployments begin in the middle of August and last until the end of February; and

Whereas, during March to October the ATS maintains a contingent of five personnel at McMurdo Station, Antarctica to provide support to the USAP footprint; and

Whereas, the relationship between SPAWARSYSCEN, Charleston and the USAP began in 1985 and has grown to include a hybrid of engineering projects; and

Whereas, the NSF annually conducts a USAP Annual Planning Conference; and

Whereas, this year the conference is hosted by SPAWARSYSCEN, Charleston from May 7—11, 2001 in Charleston, SC at the Sheraton Hotel in North Charleston.

Now Therefore, I, R. Keith Summey, Mayor of the City of North Charleston, declare May 7—11, 2001 as:

"Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston and Antarctic Aviation Technical Services (ATS) Program Week"

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of North Charleston, in the County of Charleston and the State of South Carolina, to be affixed hereto this 24th day of April, 2001.
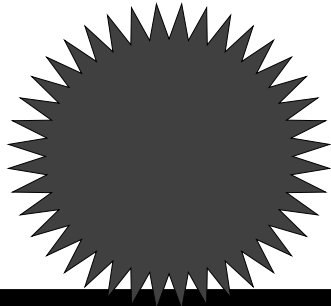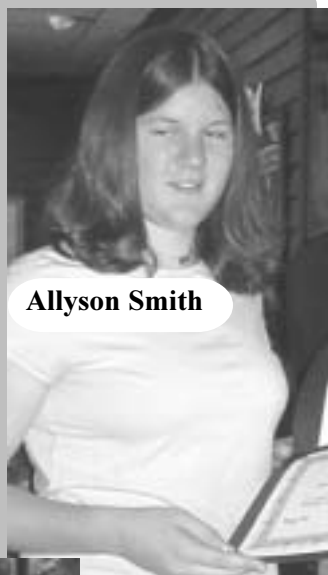
s/R. Keith Summey
Mayor

Editor's Note: Above proclamation is a reproduction of the original which was signed and sealed by North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey.
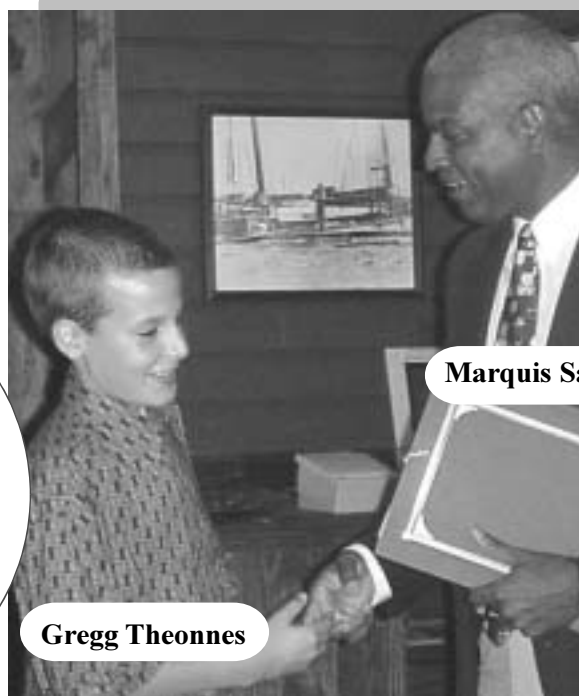
Jessica Sheets

Allyson Smith

Kathryn Castillo

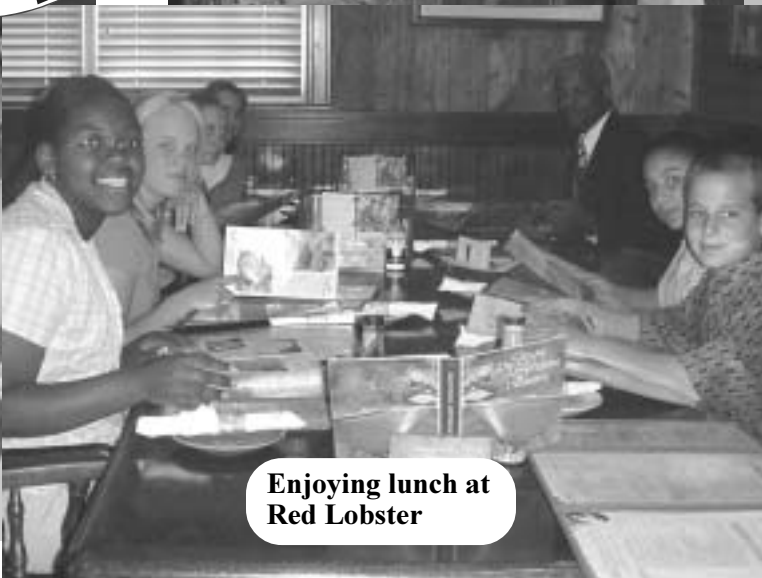The Gregg Middle School School-to-Work students and Mentors.

School Spirit!

Marquis Sailor

Gregg Theonnes

Lacy Gomez

Enjoying lunch at Red Lobster

Mentors provide real-world work experience

This is the third year of the School-to-Work Mentoring Program between SSC Charleston and Gregg Middle School. The program's goal is to involve middle school students in business environments where they gain real-world employment experience.

The students come to SSC Charleston once a month and participate in assignments from mentors — both technical and administrative personnel. It is fun, as well as a learning experience, for all involved.

This year's program included a web design competition and Jessica Sheets received a trophy for the award-winning design. The new web address is forthcoming.

SSC Charleston received the Southeast Region Special Achievement Award for its participation in the Navy Community Service Program for involvement with Gregg Middle School.

During the farewell luncheon (see photos on previous page), held at Red Lobster, mentors proudly looked on as students received letters and certificates of participation from **Marquis Sailor**, the program coordinator.

SPAWAR receives Board of Education awards

In April, Capt. Deitch accepted the Honored Business Award given by Berkeley County School District Superintendent, Dr. J. Chester Floyd, and the School Board. Also, the Volunteer Service Award was presented to **Marsha Hassell**. SSC Charleston was honored for the volunteer work with Hanahan Middle School — student mentoring, the Lunch Buddy Program, tutoring, Red Ribbon Week, Science Fair, Career Day, and Job Shadow Day. We will be further nominated at the state level.

To: **Capt. Nancy Deitch**, **Pat Ancrum**, **Bob Bush**, **Meghan Carmody-Bubb**, **Tom Glaab**, **Lynn Jordon**, **Randy Bryant**, **Curtis Nelson**, **Charley Adams**, **James Day**, **Capt. Ron Crowell**, **Randall Grossman**, **Marilene Guardia-Baker**, **Lt. Dan Emerson**, **Kathy Klinar**, **Lee Larrew**, **Cheryl Majewski**, **Warren Mercado**, **Tom Reiff**, **Cassandra Richardson**, **Gary Scott**, **Jacque Singleton**, **Rob Singleton**, **Shelton Stewart**, **Wesley Wills**, **Marquis Sailor**, **Yolonda Zanders-Barr**, **Vera Jackson**, **Kathy Adams**, **Scott Burke**, **Donna Murphy**, **Bill Sanders**, **Ken Ballard**, **Phil Charles**, **Bob Sauer**, **Mark Leyde**, **Fred Tims**, **Marion Welch**, **James Reid**, **Scott Crellin**, **Ed Garbade**, **Terry Watkins**, **Nathan Baird**, **Will Chiaiese**, **Will Gex**, **Dean Glace**, **Toney Slater**, **Kathy Hurley**, and **Steve Richards**.

"I wish to sincerely thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of the students at Hanahan Middle School. This award belongs to all of you since without you, we would not have a partnership. I cannot thank you enough for your individual efforts and support. Congratulations to all of you!"
—Marsha Hassell
Congressional and Public Affairs Officer

Are you a confident public speaker? Do you need to improve your presentation

Toastmasters club elects new officers

On Thursday, May 31, SSC Charleston's Toastmasters Club elected new officers for the term July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2002. The newly elected officers are: President, **Theresa Breaux** (J541TB); vice president-education, **Marquis Sailor** (J511); vice president-membership, **Jacque Singleton** (J523JS); vice president-public relations, **Marsha Hassell** (J0PA); sergeant at arms, **Clifford U. Price, Jr.** (J0E-CU); treasurer, **Pat Ancrum** (J1115PA); and secretary, **Diane Kobs** (J1113DK).

Toastmasters meets every other Friday at 11:30 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room, bldg. 3147. A great and effective way to dramatically improve your communication and presentation skills, membership is open to any SSC Charleston employee — government and contractors. Dues are $18 per year. Contact **Jacque Singleton** at 843-218-4567 for more information.

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